

**The City of Harrisburg**

**Department of  
Parks and Recreation**

**Annual Report**

**Year 2002**

**Stephen R. Reed, Mayor**



## Office of the Mayor

### The City of Harrisburg

City Government Center  
10 North Market Square  
Harrisburg, PA 17101-1678

Stephen R. Reed

(717) 255-3040

Mayor

## **FOREWARD**

I am pleased to commend to your reading this comprehensive report for the year 2002, one of the most progressive years in the history of the City of Harrisburg since we were first incorporated as a municipality in 1791.

Harrisburg has come a long way from when it was listed in the first half of the 1980s as the second most distressed city in the United States. There remains a great deal more to be done, and this annual report is issued as a means to identify our progress through the activities, projects and operations of the City of Harrisburg. Such a report as this is issued for each department of city government under the Mayor's authority.

Every city employee and each city agency are integral to the success of Harrisburg. The work and achievements of the current era have written a new chapter in the Capital City's and region's history and, for this, every city employee can take pride and credit.

The City of Harrisburg's government is the most diverse municipal government in Central Pennsylvania. Our services and operations range from the traditional large municipal functions related to police, fire, public works, and parks and recreation to the more unique, such as water, sewer, trash collection, solid waste incineration, energy generation, recycling, economic development, areawide data processing systems, contracted sludge processing, codes enforcement and conducting major special events. Intertwined into all these functions are the administrative support functions related to risk management, legal, data processing, personnel, purchasing, billing, debt collection and financial management services. Everyone's role is important and everyone contributes to the overall success and functioning of this city.

This past year has considerably added to the overall positive performance of this government in achieving major public policy goals. For example:

- (1) The Part I crime rate, considered to be the index by which crime is measured in communities, has dropped over 54% since 1981 and the crime rate is now at a 30 year low;
- (2) The fire rate, meaning the number of fires per year, has dropped over 76% since 1982, and is now at its lowest level since citywide records have been kept;

- (3) The number of businesses on the city's taxrolls, counted at 1,908 by the end of 1981, is now 5,976, the highest number ever recorded;
- (4) The taxbase, assessed at \$212 million in 1982, is now over \$1.6 billion, the highest level ever recorded in city history;
- (5) During the period of 1995 through 2002, the City broke the record four times for the amount of new economic development investments, setting new record levels in city history; in the current era, over \$3.1 billion has been invested in Harrisburg, also a new record for any similar time period in city history, even when adjusting for inflation; the year 2002 was our highest year ever, with \$269.7 million in new investment;
- (6) The annual cost of living index consistently lists Harrisburg as being one of the most affordable communities in the midstate in which to own a home;
- (7) The City, in 2002, for the fifteenth consecutive year, won the nation's top national award for financial reporting and accounting and, additionally, for the twelfth consecutive year, won the nation's top national award for budgeting; of over 2,560 municipalities in Pennsylvania, only 2 have attained the same status;
- (8) The City, in 2002, for the fifteenth consecutive year, retained Tree City U.S.A. status, the highest community conservation award in the nation; and recently, City parks and recreation activities and programs garnered over 30 international, national and state awards; the city's Advanced Wastewater Treatment Plant won first place in Pennsylvania in statewide operational, maintenance and safety competition amongst other plants; the Harrisburg History Project, which includes the placement of pedestrian-level placards marking city historic sites, received the Historic Harrisburg Association's Preservation Award; the City's Melrose Gardens Housing Project received the prestigious Bellamy Award from the Pennsylvania Housing and Redevelopment Agencies' Association, their highest recognition;
- (9) The City and region were selected by the state Chamber of Business and Industry as Pennsylvania's Outstanding Community for the year 2002, marking the second time Harrisburg has won the state's most prestigious municipal honor. Harrisburg was also selected as Pennsylvania's Outstanding Community in 1990.
- (10) The City retained National Police Accreditation, the highest recognition for law enforcement in the nation; of over 21,000 police agencies, only 443 have attained the same status;
- (11) The City attained top national and state awards for its transportation infrastructure improvements, its energy conservation efforts, its historic rehabilitation projects and a myriad of other City pursuits, making the City of Harrisburg the most award-winning municipality in Pennsylvania; the city's Vehicle Maintenance Center and its Director received the top international award from the Association of Fleet Administrators for the city's innovative vehicle purchasing program, which cuts vehicle purchase costs by 10% to 15% and has thus far saved the city and its fellow participating municipalities over \$6 million in reduced vehicle purchase costs;
- (12) Harrisburg continued to be one of the leading cities in the country in the creation of alternative energy and revenue sources; thus far, in the current era, the City has generated over 15.3 billion pounds

of steam, co-generated over 903 million kilowatts of electrical energy, saved over 9.6 million cubic yards of landfill space and produced energy equivalent to over 870 million gallons of foreign oil;

(13) The City has fully or partially funded projects that have resulted in new construction or restoration of over 5,000 residential units, in the form of homes and apartments, making Harrisburg the largest residential developer in Central Pennsylvania;

(14) Additional upgrades have occurred in the Harrisburg Parks System, now the largest municipal parks system in the Midstate and the only municipal parks system to play a continuous regional role; the City has invested over \$68 million in parks and playgrounds since 1982;

(15) Attendance figures continue to show Harrisburg as a dynamic center for recreation, arts and entertainment, with over 2.3 million in attendance for the city's various free, regional special events. The Harrisburg Senators again surpassed the quarter million attendance mark with 283,661 fans in 2002, a new annual record, and are now well over the 3.75 million mark in total attendance, and the Harrisburg Heat have drawn more than 1.2 million fans during their tenure at the State Farm Show Complex.

(16) Citywide neighborhood recreational programs attracted their largest annual attendance ever, with 571,688 attendance in 2002, a 5% increase over 2001, and a dramatic 19% increase since 2000;

(17) The City continued in its Class 7 designation under the National Flood Insurance Program; only three other municipalities in the Nation have an identical or better designation; the classification is the result of the City's floodplain management and emergency management programs; Harrisburg is the only municipality in Pennsylvania to be upgraded in its classification, and in Harrisburg's case, was upgraded three times, giving City property owners a 15% reduction in the base premium for flood insurance;

(18) The City's Fire Bureau is one of 27 Federally-designated Urban Search and Rescue teams, one of the groups available for deployment anywhere in the U.S. for a major national disaster; further, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania contracted the City to serve as administrator of Pennsylvania Task Force One, which involves resources from across and outside the state, to respond to such emergencies; the City of Harrisburg and the state Task Force were the first team deployed to the World Trade Center on September 11, 2001, in response to the worst terrorist attack in United States history;

(19) In conjunction with its operation of Task Force One, the City has constructed a new Special Operations Center that now serves as the headquarters and staging center for the Task Force and other specialized emergency operations.

(20) As a result of the success of the first Task Force, a second Intra-State Task Force, for response solely within Pennsylvania, has been created by the State. Additionally, the Water Rescue Strike Team One, a sophisticated new marine rescue unit capable of handling water-related emergencies anywhere in the State, is now operational. Harrisburg administers both of these recent additions to the Pennsylvania Emergency Management System.

(21) In the area of community services, Harrisburg continues to be the most engaged municipality in the region in matters of affordable housing and sheltering the displaced. As a result of joint effort by the City, County and human service providers, a second major grant—for \$1,088,000—was secured for both short-term shelters as well as intensive homelessness abatement and prevention.



(22) City coordination and support have resulted in over 225 city blocks being adopted under the Adopt-A-Block beautification program, and another two dozen vacant lots are similarly cared for under the Adopt-A-Lot program; 29 citizens have been trained as citizen codes inspectors to assist city Codes Enforcement Officers, and over 200 citizens have now graduated from the city's innovative Citizens Police Academy, the first of its kind in the midstate; more than 100 city blocks and neighborhoods are now covered by neighborhood crime watch groups;

(23) On a daily and continuous basis, City agencies and personnel performed thousands of services and tasks, for which neither recognition nor attention were provided, but all of which served to enhance the quality of life in Harrisburg with benefit to citizens, businesses and visitors.

(24) The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has committed \$12 million to the planned new city university, Harrisburg Polytechnic Institute, and the Institute's Preparatory School and Business Incubator will soon open in a restored 83,000 sq. ft. former vacant site in the 200 block of Market Street. More than \$9 million in renovations are currently underway in the former YWCA site.

All should know and understand that American cities continue to face major challenges, frequently involving forces and factors over which a local government has no control. Our gains here have been the result of vision, struggle, persistence and arduous effort. The resurgence of Harrisburg in the current era has reversed previous decades of decline but we, too, are subjected to the unique burdens which the Nation and region place solely upon cities. It remains critically important that each of us rededicate ourselves to the furtherance of Harrisburg's best interests as we carry forth our respective roles and duties. The collective and individual efforts of Harrisburg's employees have made history. We owe it to the people we serve to build upon our present day progress by continuing our commitment to a constant, daily effort to be the best at what we have been hired to do for this City.

To the citizens and taxpayers of Harrisburg we dedicate this comprehensive annual report and our full measure of devotion in the days ahead.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Stephen Reed". The signature is stylized with a large, looped "S" and a cursive "Reed".

Stephen R. Reed  
Mayor

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**THE CITY OF HARRISBURG**  
**DEPARTMENT OF PARKS AND RECREATION**

**I. Department Overview and Background**

The Department of Parks and Recreation of the City of Harrisburg was established by City Council ordinance in 1973. Prior to that time, the responsibilities of the Department fell within the jurisdiction of the Bureau of Recreation, Department of Community Development. Since that time, the Department of Parks and Recreation has been its own entity, now located in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. City Government Center, 10 North Second Street, Suite 401, Harrisburg, PA 17101-1686. The department also maintains a field office (commonly referred to as the Park Shop) off Cameron Street, where most vehicles, equipment, and lawn care items are stored, and Bureau of Recreation offices in the newly restored Mansion in Reservoir Park.

This Department serves a multitude of functions, which include, but are not limited to, the following: provides comprehensive programming for year-round recreational sites; staffs seventeen recreation sites, two City pools, and one City Island Beach facility during summer months; maintains 450+ acres of parks and playgrounds owned and operated by the City; plans and prepares for all Special Events and visiting dignitaries; publishes a monthly City Calendar of area events; maintains 50,000 shade trees located on public property; assists the Department of Public works during emergencies and special assignments, i.e. snow removal and water-line breaks; and oversees all construction activities ranging from restoration of historically significant structures and formal gardens to rehabilitation of existing recreational facilities and the creation of new facilities. Since the functions of the Department are numerous yet diverse, each requiring special areas of expertise, three Bureaus were created within the Department: the Office of the Director, the Bureau of Recreation, and the Bureau of Parks Maintenance. Each Bureau has a supervisor who is responsible for tending to staff needs and overseeing the daily operations of his/her Bureau. These individuals report to the Director, who is responsible for overseeing all functions implemented by each Bureau. The Director/Department Head reports to the Mayor, and, when applicable, to City Council.

Each Bureau has a staff complement ranging from 3-110 individuals who are responsible for implementation of the specific functions outlined for that Bureau. Staff members range from temporary seasonal help to permanent full-time positions. The Department of Parks and Recreation presently has thirty-five full-time and thirty part-time positions. During the summer months, the Bureau of Recreation employs 100 area residents to assist with programming on scheduled recreation sites. The office of the Director has ten full-time employees to carry out its responsibilities, which now include a Park Ranger Corp. The Bureau of Parks Maintenance has nineteen full-time employees, a City Island Superintendent/Assistant Park Maintenance Director, a Head Groundskeeper and a Parks Maintenance Director. This is a significant decrease from 1974, when the Bureau had forty-two full-time employees, and from 1981, when, with assistance from the CETA program, the Department had fifty-eight employees.

Although the number of Department staff has decreased since the early 1980s, productivity has increased due to computerization of Park Maintenance data, specialization of its professional staff, acquisition of a new fleet of vehicles, and replacement of worn-out maintenance equipment. Never before has the Department achieved so much with so little. Its parks, playgrounds, and open space areas have seen incredible transformations, with more than \$68 million dollars worth of capital improvements undertaken and completed since 1982, when Mayor Reed implemented his Parks Improvement Program. In addition, the Department's special events and recreation programs have expanded to accommodate the City's growing needs.

The subsequent pages will attempt to outline the milestones each Bureau has accomplished during the past year, beginning with the Office of the Director (which includes Park Rehabilitation and Development) and the Park Ranger Corp Program (which is now in its ninth year of operation), and closing with the Special Events component of this "Bureau." The Special Events component of the Department can be categorized as both a huge undertaking and a genuine success story. In 2002, despite frequent adverse weather conditions, Special Events attendance was 1,312,850 a 2% decrease over 2001's attendance of 1,335,850. This decrease was due to the cancellation of the Mini Grand Prix and the merging of the Opera in the Park and the Harrisburg Symphony Concert into the American Musicfest.

As a free service and one which greatly assists with the promotion of the Department's activities, the City Calendar offers the most comprehensive listing of recreational activities in the City and the area. In its sixteenth year, the City Calendar has grown to an annual circulation of 221,000 copies. Twelve monthly City Calendars, a summer recreation guide, and a City Island brochure are produced every year. This in-house publication assists the City in being able to get the word out to the public about what Harrisburg has to offer in the way of recreation programs and special events.

Following the Special Events report, the Bureau of Recreation's report is sure to interest those who have children or enjoy participating in organized activities and programs, many of which promote physical fitness, environmental awareness, education, and just plain fun for all age groups, tourists, visitors, and Harrisburg residents alike. Recreation programs are offered year-round. Total attendance for year-round recreational activities in 2002 was 571,668 participants, a 5% increase. The City of Harrisburg is the only community in Central Pennsylvania that offers year-round recreation programs free-of-charge.

The Final section of this report, on Bureau of Parks Maintenance activities, outlines the parks, playgrounds, and open space improvements undertaken and completed in 2002. In 2002, our total park land complement remained at twenty-eight playgrounds plus twenty open space areas totaling more than 450+ acres. In previous years, we completed the rehabilitation of three inner-City playgrounds: Wilson Park, Norwood, and Shipoke, as well as the rehabilitation of Swenson Plaza, our Capital Area Greenbelt, Clarence C. Morrison Park and the Reverend Roach memorial at the north end of Italian Lake. In 2002, we rehabilitated and renamed Penn and Dauphin Streets Playground which is now known as the Benjamin and Gloria Olewine Playground. The physical improvements occurred during 2001-02, although planning efforts occurred the year before.

Although Reservoir Park is the City's largest park, City Island represents the most popular single facility, with over 2 million persons attending various waterfront activities during 2002.

In closing, our shade tree maintenance activities resulted in the City, for the fifteenth consecutive year, being named a Tree City, USA. This award is issued by the National Arbor Day Foundation, and is given annually to only a handful of cities in our nation. An aggressive tree maintenance program was implemented in 1990, with results dramatically apparent by the close of 2002; thousands of trees have been trimmed and hundreds have been planted throughout the City.

### **BUDGET INFORMATION**

Below is a breakdown of budgetary information by Bureau for the past year:

#### **0180 - Office of the Director**

Personnel	532,490
Operating	339,400
Capital	0
Grants	<u>15,000</u>
	\$886,890

#### **0183 - Bureau of Recreation**

Personnel	596,754
Operating	186,900
Capital	<u>6,000</u>
	\$789,654

#### **0184 - Bureau of Parks Maintenance**

Personnel	894,741
Operating	421,400
Capital	<u>0</u>
	\$1,316,141

#### **Total Department of Parks and Recreation**

Personnel	2,033,985
Operating	947,700
Capital	6,000
Grants	<u>15,000</u>
Grand Total	\$2,992,685

**The City of Harrisburg**  
**Department of Parks and Recreation**

**2002 Staff**

**OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

**Date of Employment**

Tina Manoogian-King, Department Director	8-25-88
Jarvas Bell, Events Marketing Manager	4-26-99
Janeen Samuels, Administrative Assistant II	5-17-99
Matthew Hope, Publications Director	7-28-97
Glenn White, Special Events Director	6-12-95

**PARK RANGER CORP**

Melvin Jackson, Acting Park Ranger Supervisor	8-4-97
John Williamson, Park Ranger Supervisor	8-17-98
Jeffrey Snead, Park Ranger Supervisor	4-11-94

**BUREAU OF RECREATION**

Margaret Hayes, Recreation Director	3-19-84
Larry Moore, Deputy Recreation Director	10-5-98
Luis Toro, Sports/ Special Programs Coordinator	3-29-99

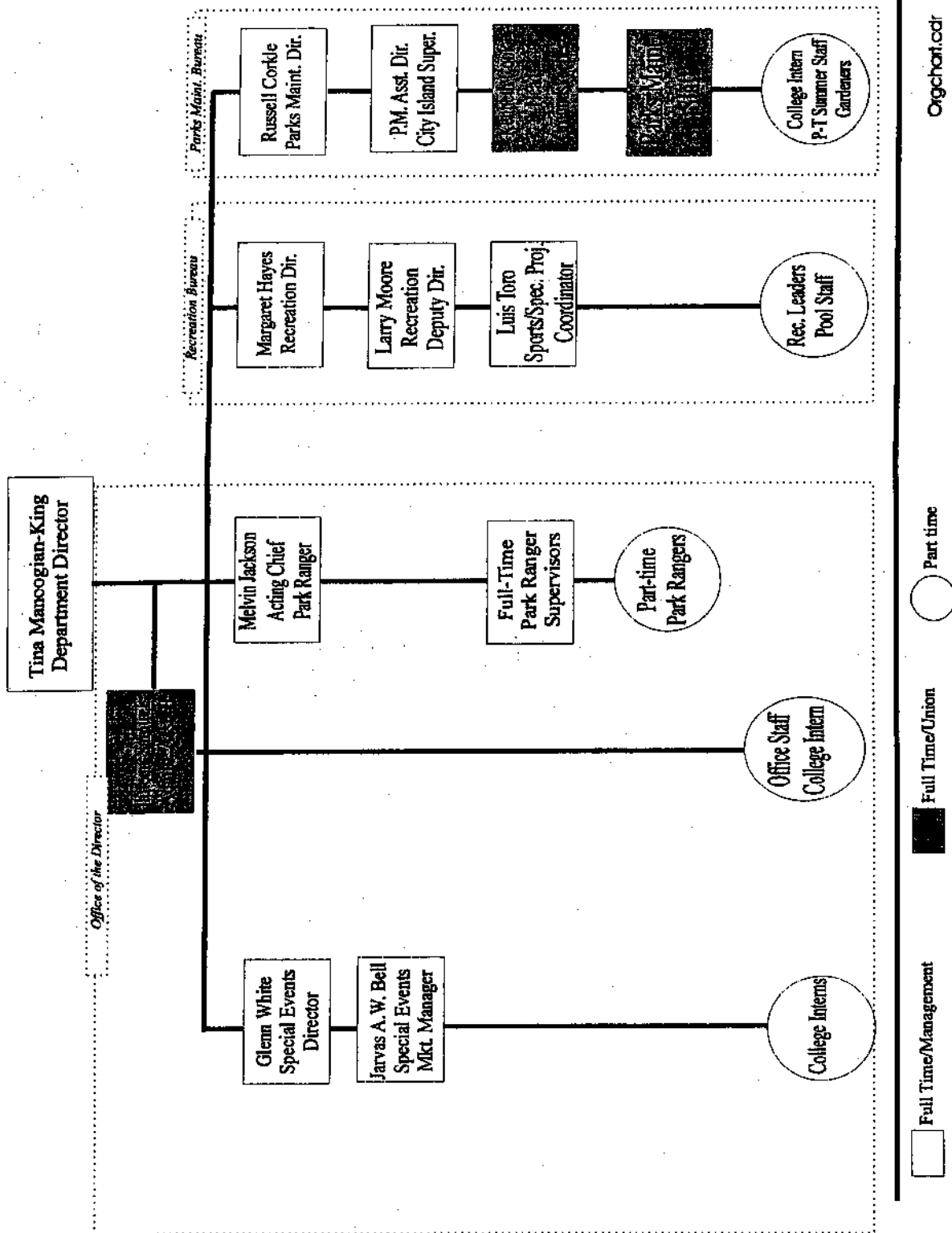
**BUREAU OF PARKS MAINTENANCE**

Russell Corkle, Parks Maintenance Director	8-7-74
Jay Browning, Assistant Parks Maintenance Director/ City Island Superintendent	4-1-02
Daniel Akra, Tradesman	8-8-74
Fletcher Boone, , Motor Equipment Operator	6-3-02
Miguel Caraballo, Gardner I	6-5-00
Beauregard Clea, Crew Leader II	3-19-71
Kenneth Cook, Stadium Groundskeeper	5-4-98
Tim Doutrich, Laborer I	4-22-02
Robert Ferretti, Gardner I	3-24-97
Maynard Gardner, Jr., Landscape Technician II	6-17-91
Dave Hassell, Larorer I	8-26-02
Todd Herbster, Laborer I	5-8-00
Mark Horetsky, Landscape Technician I	7-11-94
Rodney Keller, Crew Leader	3-26-90

<b>Andrew McClure, Tradesman</b>	<b>6-24-91</b>
<b>Lamonte Moore, Laborer I</b>	<b>4-3-95</b>
<b>Ronald Noss, Tradesman II</b>	<b>10-7-87</b>
<b>Scott Pace, Landscape Technician II</b>	<b>6-17-91</b>
<b>Angel Ramos, Laborer II</b>	<b>8-19-91</b>
<b>Fernando Rivera, Gardner I</b>	<b>5-8-00</b>



# Department of Parks and Recreation Organizational Chart



## **OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

- Park Rehabilitation and Development Issues**
- Harrisburg City Calendar Report**
- Park Ranger Report**
- Special Events Report**

## **PARK REHABILITATION AND DEVELOPMENT ISSUES**

## **OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

### **Mayor's Parks Improvement Program (1983-2002) - Overview**

The City of Harrisburg today has the most extensive special events schedule of any municipality in the midstate's history, attracting over two million people per year to a wide range of events sponsored by or facilitated by the City. Many of the events are conducted through the City's Special Events Office, created in 1983 by Executive Order of the Mayor. A number of the special events, such as the Independence Weekend Festival and the summer's end Kipona Celebration, are held at our Riverfront facilities. The City also sponsors or co-sponsors over 200 other special events each year, including the Holiday Parade, the Rev. Dr. Martin L. King, Jr. Essay Contest, Arbor Day activities, the Mini Grand Prix, Earth Day, the Greater Harrisburg Arts Festival, the New Year's Eve Celebration, Italian Lake, Reservoir Park, Market Square, and Riverfront Concerts, and more.

Harrisburg today also has the most extensive municipal parks system in central Pennsylvania and is the only municipal parks system in this area which plays a regional role, as indicated by the extensive use of city parks, programs, and special events by non-city residents. In contrast, some nearby communities ban non-residents from their municipal parks.

The center for some of the recreational activity is the City's beautiful Riverfront. Situated along the Susquehanna River, the Riverfront offers picturesque scenery accented by the Harrisburg skyline. **Riverfront Park** is a 4.5 mile-long park containing park benches, gardens, a telescopic outlook, the Swenson Plaza, the Kunkel Memorial Plaza, monuments, and public art, which enhance its attractiveness while providing for an enjoyable walk, jog, or bicycle ride. Sunken Gardens, offering gardens and walkways bordered by lighted monuments, is located in the midtown area of Riverfront Park. The gardens have been renovated to include an irrigation system, antique-style streetlights, brick walkways, grading, new flower beds, and new signage. In addition, the Riverfront Peoples Park Association, an independent citizen/community organization, has added to the extensive renovations by donating a gazebo which serves as the centerpiece in the garden. In addition, public art has been added to the peace gardens, located in Riverfront Park, which were created and dedicated in an effort to promote world peace and the preservation of our earth.

**ITALIAN LAKE**, located in the City's uptown area, was recently restored. Restorations included walkways, antique-style streetlights, gardens, signage, and duck and geese habitats. The restoration maintained the original shorelines and provided for the construction of retaining walls along the northern half of the lake. The southern half, separated from the northern half by a picturesque Japanese bridge, was maintained by preserving the original retaining walls. Italian Lake hosts a splendid summertime concert series featuring chamber and classical music for six weekends during the summer season.

**RESERVOIR PARK** is the oldest municipal park in southcentral Pennsylvania and also the largest, containing over 90 acres situated on the highest point in the City. Phase I of renovations at Reservoir Park, completed in 1992, included the rehabilitation of the historic mansion and pavilion, the creation of the Village at Reservoir Park, the restoration of the bandshell, repaved roadways, and the placement of antique-style streetlights, new walkways, fountains, gardens, and plazas. Reservoir Park now has new and restored facilities designed with a particular emphasis on arts, cultural, historic, and environmental education, and conservation themes. Phase I-A, Garden Expansion project, was completed in June, 1993, and includes formal French gardens, drift gardens, lighted walkways, a new boulevard entranceway, parking lot, public art, and outdoor seating. Phase II of Reservoir Park was completed in 1995; improvements include additional gardens, walkways, outdoor lighting, an expanded children's playground, restoration of the Brownstone Building as an arts and education center, complete reconstruction of the basketball and tennis court area, and construction of a new entrance at 18<sup>th</sup> & Walnut Streets. Planning efforts for Phase III got underway in 1998-99 for the National Civil War Museum which will open in February of 2001.

**CITY ISLAND**, the hallmark of Harrisburg's aggressive waterfront development plan, is still only one of 21 sites created or upgraded through the first major citywide parks improvement program in more than sixty years. City Island was a long unused and blighted 63-acre site until 1987, but today hosts such activities as professional minor league baseball, art exhibits, historical displays, and numerous other recreational activities. City Island facilities include: RiverSide Village Park, offering great food which can be enjoyed while dining alfresco at the RiverView Pavilion or at the River Terrace and Decks; the John Harris Trading Post, a replica which depicts life from the early 18<sup>th</sup> Century; HarbourTown, a miniature 1840s-style canal village which serves as a playground for children; the Pride Of the Susquehanna Riverboat, which can accommodate up to 150 persons for cruises, dinner charters, or scenic river excursions; Harrisburg Marina I and II, which provide boat owners with docks, ramps, gazebo, picnic areas, showers, and parking; Walnut Street Station, a Victorian-style railway station and home base for the City Island Railroad, which offers rides on a miniature steam-driven train; Water Golf, an 18-hole miniature golf course with waterfalls, bridge, and a concession stand; the Beach House, a restored historic structure which houses showers, a concession stand, lavatories, the lifeguard office, and changing areas for the swimmers at City Island beach, and shuffleboard courts located near the entranceway of the building; the Nature Trail, with guided nature walks by Park Rangers available from the City Island Information Center; the Island Breezes, which offers toys, novelties, and, of course, kites; RiverSide Stadium, home of championship AA minor league baseball; the Skyline Sports Complex, a multi-purpose facility built to minor league professional football standards, which hosts soccer, softball, volleyball, football, and lacrosse games, and a myriad of other events and activities; the Harrisburg Carriage House, which offers tours of historic Harrisburg and its beautiful Riverfront by horse-drawn carriage, and also offers pony rides for children; Carousel Field Pavilion built in 1996 can now accommodate 300-500 persons and is ideal for large corporate picnics, family reunions, or wedding receptions; Bus Trolley service, which provides transportation to and from downtown; and a full size antique Mengels kiddie carousel. Obviously, City Island accommodates a variety of activities in addition to boating, fishing, and swimming off of the only concrete beach in central Pennsylvania.

The Harrisburg Senators, a Class AA professional baseball team, are based at recently-built and already-expanded Riverside Stadium. Their championship 1999 season marked the ninth year of the thirteen years that Class AA minor league baseball has been in Harrisburg that the team has been in post-season playoff competition. Attendance for the Senators is ranked in the top third in the Eastern League; they won the championship in their first year, 1987, and again in 1993, 1996, 1997, 1998, and again in 1999. In addition, the Harrisburg Heat, a professional indoor soccer team, was brought to Harrisburg in 1991 through City efforts and now plays at the Pennsylvania State Farm Show Complex.

Other parks which have been considerably upgraded in the past ten years include. **Sunshine Park**, which now includes multi-purpose facilities to host competition in football, soccer, softball, tennis, basketball, volleyball, and handball, plus picnics and other activities; **7<sup>th</sup> and Radnor Streets Field**, rehabilitated in 1993, now includes field lighting, bleacher seating, and a walking track; and **14<sup>th</sup> and Shoop Streets Playground**, reopened in 1993 after a 7-year closure, now boasts new children's play apparatus, a grass surface (that replaced removed asphalt), lighting, fencing, outdoor seating, and landscaping. Other renovated sites completed in the past eight years include the **Vernon Street Playground**, **Penn and Dauphin Streets Playground**, **Norwood Playground**, **Cloverly Heights Playground**, **Braxton Playground**, **summit Terrace Playground**, **Hall Manor Field**, **Pleasant View Playground**, the **Mt. Pleasant Hispanic American Center**, **Lottsville Playground**, **4<sup>th</sup> and Emerald Playground**, **Pools #1 and #2**, **Wilson Park Playground**, **Gorgas Playground**, and **4<sup>th</sup> and Dauphin Streets Playground**.

Planning efforts commenced in 1998 to rehabilitate three inner-city playgrounds with funding assistance provided by DCNR through the key '93 Grant program; they are: Wilson, Norwood, and Shipoke Playgrounds. All three of these inner-city playgrounds were rehabilitated in spring of 1999 and all three were open by June 1, 1999 for the public's enjoyment. In addition, construction activity planned for Swenson Plaza located at Front and Walnut Streets and named after the late Mayor Harold Swenson was completed and dedicated in 1999. The Reverend Clyde Roach Memorial at the north end of Italian Lake as well as \$500,000 worth of improvements in the City's Capital Area Greenbelt were all completed and dedicated in year 2000. All of the planning efforts occurred in 1999 with construction slated in 1999-2000. In 2002, with funding assistance provided from the Benjamin and Gloria Olewine Lead Charitable Trust. We were able to rehabilitate and rename Penn and Dauphin Playgrounds in Mid-town Harrisburg.

In 2002, the Department secured four grants to continue the Mayor's Parks Improvement Program. Three grants were federally funded; two through the National Park Service and one from the Federal Highway Administration Grant and the DCNR grant are for continuation of work undertaken within the Capital Area Greenbelt. We anticipate completing the Vernon Street and Braxton Street playgrounds by June 2003, with work on the Capital Area Greenbelt to be completed by Spring 2004.

More than twenty public parks areas have been extensively restored or created under efforts initiated by the Mayor's Parks Improvement Program, established in 1983. Harrisburg's parks system

today plays host to hundreds of thousands of residents and visitors each year. City-wide programs at park sites (including playgrounds) include multi-cultural art, environmental education, reading, storytelling, and organized sports such as biddy basketball, basketball, soccer, tennis, and volleyball. In addition, Harrisburg created a Park Ranger Corps in 1990. The Park Rangers conduct year-round patrols, traffic control, and public information duties in the major City parks, especially City Island, Reservoir Park, and Italian Lake.

In addition to improving its park system, Harrisburg has been awarded the Tree City USA designation for the past sixteen consecutive years. This award, conferred by the National Arbor Day Foundation, honors Harrisburg's environmental policies, and particularly those related to tree planting and parks maintenance activities. For every tree removed, three trees are planted somewhere in the City.



# MAYOR'S PARKS IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

## Capital Expenditures 1982 - Present

<u>PARK NAME</u>	<u>COST</u>
Reservoir Park: Playground	\$ 163,733
Demo of Pavillon #3	9,725
Caretaker's House 1987	139,634
Bandshell Repairs 1989, Restoration 1991	14,000
Pavillon Rehabilitation 1990	48,725
Phase I Restoration 1991 - 92	2.3 Million
Phase IA Restoration - Garden Expansion 1992 - 93	1.7 Million
Phase II Restoration - Brownstone Bldg., Playground, Basketball Courts, 18th & Walnut Sts. Entrance 1994 - 95	2.7 Million
National Civil War Museum	40 Million
 Penn and Sayford Playground (Rehab) 1985 - 86	 40,737
14th & Shoop - Complete Rehabilitation - 1993	107,088
 Braxton Playground (Rehab) 1985 - 86	 39,233
 Pool #2 (Partial Rehab) 1987	 124,600
Complete Rehabilitation 1990	198,000
New Deck & Fencing - 1993	113,331
New Plaster Finish - 1998	64,973
 Penn and Dauphin Playground (New Apparatus) 1982	 8,644
Complete Rehabilitation 1991	39,987
 Gorgas Playground 1982	 2,644
1990 - 91	37,930
 Vernon Street Playground (Rehab) 1983 - 84	 34,500
 Royal/Summit Terrace 1983 - 84	 48,600
 Sunshine Park 1984	 103,188
1989 (Partial Rehab - Restroom Building)	18,700
1993 (Complete Rehabilitation)	477,075
 Spanish Speaking Center: Playground - 1982	 59,207
Basketball Courts - 1982	20,000
Playground Rehabilitation - 1994	27,000
 Hall Manor Playgrounds 1987	 140,000
1989	25,000
 Pleasantview Playground Phase I - 1989	 12,777
Phase II - 1990	3,000
Phase III - 1991	19,000
 Wilson Park Playground Phase I - 1987 - 88	 12,878
Phase II - 1989	17,552
Complete Rehabilitation	81,334
4th and Dauphin Playground (Basketball Courts) 1989	4,000

7th and Radnor	Phase I - 1989	9,700
	Phase II - 1990	12,300
	Phase III - 1991	209,055
Pool #1 Rehab 1988-89		182,000
Pool #1 Deck Work & Cover		52,970
Sunken Garden	Phase I - 1989	30,200
	Phase II - 1990	23,700
	Phase III - 1991	38,950
Riverfront Park		
Uplighting & Walkways - 1998		350,000
Swenson Plaza - 1999		250,059
Walkway uplighting and electrical improvements		350,000
Embankment restoration		1.5 Million
Kunkel Memorial 1992		1.2 Million
Norwood Playground	1989 - Partial Rehabilitation	23,900
	1999 - Complete Rehabilitation	93,486
Shipoke Playground	1999 - Complete Rehabilitation	90,428
Cloverly Heights Playground 1989		17,500
*City Island: (1987 to Present)		
RiverSide Stadium - Phase I		2.2 Million
Phase II		2,417,863
Phase III		512,695
Carriage House		480,000
RiverSide Village		350,000
Marina		80,000
Bathhouse		235,000
Skyline Sports Complex		2.6 Million
Other Waterfront - New Facilities		3.2 Million
Carousel Pavillion 1996		260,000
Handicap Lot (1st base side) 1997		14,000
Italian Lake	Phase I - 1989 - 90	315,000
	Phase II Walkway - 1991 - 92	445,318
	Reverend Roach Memorial - 1999-2000	25,000
4th and Dauphin Playground 1996		150,674
4th and Emerald Playground (Curb and Sidewalks) 1989		16,000
4th and Emerald Playground (Complete Rehabilitation) 1990 - 91		37,545
Lottsville Playground - New Construction 1991		38,205
Park Maintenance Complex 1991 - 92		1.2 Million
Capital Area Greenbelt (to be completed in the Year 2000)		500,000
Total		\$ 68,718,402

\*Waterfront improvements were funded by the Harrisburg Hydroelectric Project, these funds could not be legally spent at non-waterfront park improvements.

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## **HARRISBURG CITY CALENDAR REPORT**

## **OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

### **2002 Publications Annual Report**

Publications produced, printed and distributed by the Harrisburg Parks and Recreation Department are designed to promote the City, it's programs, events and improving lifestyle.

With that credo in mind the publications department underwent major changes commencing in 1997. The department changed Publication Directors and with that came a change in the production, distribution and the visual look of all the publications.

#### **Harrisburg City Calendar**

The primary publication is the Harrisburg City Calendar. In 1997, the Harrisburg City Calendar underwent a total facelift. The production of the publication were computerized in order to increase efficiency and aid in the design. The publication was redesigned to increase readability and to compete visually with other publications in the greater Harrisburg market. Community and event news were combined to increase the readership and to give a total picture of all the good things that are happening in Harrisburg. Starting with the 1997 April issue approximately 12,424 were mailed to registered voters in the City of Harrisburg.

All of the changes have made us one of the largest publications in the Harrisburg area with a distribution of 30,002 copies per month. With the changes in design our readership has increased and in distribution locations all the copies are picked up and we receive calls for more.

During the last 12 months, 30,002 City Calendars were produced each month at a cost of \$2400 for 12 pages, or \$2000 for 8 pages approximately. 12,424 were labeled and mailed for \$2400 each month. The City Calendar had on the average \$800 in paid advertising per month. In 2002, a total of 370,022 publications were printed and distributed.

**PARK RANGER CORP**

## **OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

### **Park Ranger Corp Program**

The City of Harrisburg has continued to undertake extensive development of new recreational facilities while rehabilitating many existing parks, playgrounds, and open space areas. As a result of this financial investment, means to promote, preserve, and protect these improvements are absolutely necessary if these facilities are to remain intact for future generations to enjoy. Our plan to protect while simultaneously promoting these facilities includes the continuance of the Park Ranger Corp Program, created by Mayor Stephen R. Reed via Executive Order in 1990. The purpose of this program is to promote and protect City parks and park improvements through constant park patrols, with the Rangers also serving as ambassadors for Harrisburg's extensive park system.

The Harrisburg Park Rangers currently work out of two locations: City Island and Reservoir Park. City Island is the location of the original Park Ranger station which was constructed in 1989 while Reservoirs Park's office was constructed in 1995 under Reservoir Park Phase II. Both offices are staffed on a regular basis. When not in the office, Rangers patrol all of Harrisburg's 27 parks and playgrounds. If needed, you can contact either office (City Island 233-8275 or Reservoir Park 232-7749) or you may call the Police Communications Center at 255-3131 and ask them to dispatch a Park Ranger to any city owned park needing assistance.

In an ongoing effort to meet the Park Ranger Program's mission, with a staff complement of one chief Park Ranger, two (2) full-time Park Ranger supervisors, and ten (10) part-time Park Rangers we are now able to increase park patrols and provide increased park security for the citizens of Harrisburg. Park Rangers have four marked vehicles and two golf carts which provide the means to transport staff from one site to another.

Park Ranger Corp members worked diligently during 22- hour shifts, seven days per week, year-round, to patrol and protect all of Harrisburg's parks, playgrounds, and open space areas. A total of forty-eight (48) hours of intensive training at the Harrisburg Area Community College's Public Safety Institute provided critical skills for all Rangers ranging from first aid to Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation to courtroom procedures.

Armed with professional training and knowledge, the Park Rangers issued 316 parking tickets, and handled 90 non-traffic citations leading to arrests based on Park Ordinances defined by Section 10-301 of the City's Codified Ordinances. The combined enforcement duties, coupled with interpretive programming carried out by the Park Rangers, have culminated in the Corp's ability to effectively promote, preserve, and protect Harrisburg's flourishing park system.

## **SPECIAL EVENTS REPORT**



## **OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR**

### **SPECIAL EVENTS OVERVIEW**

The City of Harrisburg continues to be Central Pennsylvania's leader in special events by staging quality events not just for the citizens of Harrisburg, but also for the entire region. This is accomplished by producing annual favorites such as the American Musicfest, Kipona, the Harrisburg Holiday Parade (which is televised live on WHP TV-21), and our Countdown 2002-New Year's Eve Celebration. In addition, the City works closely with local event organizers to stage events such as the Greater Harrisburg Arts Festival, African Family Festival and the Harrisburg Shakespeare Festival. The City of Harrisburg is committed to helping ensure the long-term success of special events and recreational opportunities, thus benefiting everyone in the entire region.

Our 2002 figures show an attendance decrease of 23,000 guests, or 2%, from 2001. The decrease from 2001 to 2002, was due to the cancellation of the last day of the American Musicfest due to the Canadian Wildfires. The decrease of 41,000 guests, or 3%, from 2001 to 2000, was due to cancellation of the Mini Grand Prix and the merging of the Opera in the Park and the Harrisburg Symphony Barge Concert into the American Musicfest. The Parks and Recreation Department has continued the evolution of its partnerships and co-sponsorships with other major event producers in the region in order to offer as many diverse and appealing events as possible.

Figures do not include City Island or Riverfront Park permits. In 2002, the number of park permits issued was 1 more, or .9% more, than last year. In 2001, we issued 112 park permits to citizens for exclusive use of the City's parks and playgrounds. The Department issued 18 more permits than in 2000, a 19% increase. The increase was due to the growing popularity of the Harrisburg Parks System.

In 2002, total-park permit/ banner fees decreased \$418 from 2001, a 4.3% decrease. The reason for the decrease was due to the parks and playgrounds being rented by the day instead of by the hour. Total Permit/Banner fees increased \$2,714 from 2000, a 39% increase. Park Permit fees in 2002, decreased \$483, or 5.7%, and increased \$2,619 from 2000 to 2001, a 45% increase. In 2002, Banner Posting fees increased \$65 or 5.4%. Banner Posting fees increased \$95, or 8.6%, from 2000 to 2001.

In conclusion, 2002 events were very well attended and we expect with added event quality each event should continue to receive accolades from guests in attendance and the event industry as a whole. We are anticipating an average increase in attendance figures for annual events in 2003.

## **EVENT SUMMARIES**

### **THE MARTIN LUTHER KING ESSAY COMPETITION**

The Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Essay Competition is an academic event commemorating the life of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. The competition is open to students in the seventh through twelfth grades in the Harrisburg School District, Bishop McDevitt High School, and other city parochial schools. It is designed to increase youth awareness of the teachings and goals of the late civil rights leader.

Entries are submitted voluntarily, and winners are eligible for U.S. Savings Bonds and other prizes for the top three selected essays in each grade. All entries are reviewed and selected by a panel of judges comprised of local elected officials, educators, and community leaders. Selected essay authors are then invited to a reception in their honor at the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. City Government Center.

### **AMERICAN MUSICFEST**

The American Musicfest is the largest holiday commemoration of July 4th weekend in Central Pennsylvania. The event is filled with over five stages of continuous, diverse music, along with activities such as Senators baseball games, a riverfront festival of food, kiddie rides, sporting exhibitions, riverboat rides, drag boat races, and the region's largest fireworks display.

### **THE RESERVOIR PARK CONCERT SERIES**

The Reservoir Park Concert Series presents a varied repertoire of free-admission musical entertainment in the restored park bandshell. These Saturday afternoon concerts present the best in music featuring a different style of music each weekend ranging from jazz, rock, gospel, and blues, to alternative, Latino, and reggae music. The concerts are held on Saturdays during July and August.

### **THE ITALIAN LAKE CONCERT SERIES**

Set among the beautifully restored Renaissance gardens of Italian Lake, the concert series features eclectic and versatile acts like the Arcona Reel Band, Dixieland Express Band and the klezmer group called Simple Gifts. The concert series also hosts string quartets, brass ensembles, big band and dixieland style music. Free performances are given over six consecutive Sunday evenings during July and August.

## **KIPONA**

Kipona is Central Pennsylvania's largest annual festival. One of the oldest annual festivals in the nation, Kipona (which means "sparkling water" in Native American language) was named one of the top ten festivals in the state by the Pennsylvania Festivals Association. Kipona activities include a Riverfront Park festival of food, children's rides, entertainment from several stages, nightly barge concerts, the State Chili Cook-Off, drag boat races, arts and crafts, and a wide variety of other entertainment. The festival is capped by the largest fireworks display of the year.

## **THE HARRISBURG HOLIDAY PARADE**

Harrisburg's salute to the holidays, this annual event features marching bands, floats, traveling exhibits, and giant helium-filled balloon characters. Reinstated in 1984, after years of absence, the Holiday Parade is one of the area's favorite events. The Parade is televised live on WHP TV-21.

## **CELEBRATE AMERICA-HARRISBURG NEW YEAR'S EVE CELEBRATION**

The Mayor's annual New Year's Eve Celebration features musical entertainment, food, hot drinks, jugglers, carriage rides, a fireworks display, and the dropping of a giant lighted strawberry at midnight to the delight of the crowds inside the City Government Center and outside on Market Square. The event was planned to include various downtown and midtown restaurants and the Whitaker Center for Science and the Arts. This year's event hosted thousands of guests in Market Square and was well received by the general public and tourists alike.

## ATTENDANCE

<u>Event</u>	<u>2000</u>	<u>2001</u>	<u>2002</u>
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR. ESSAY COMPETITION	250	250	250
ARTS FESTIVAL	150,000*	150,000*	150,000
HARRISBURG SYMPHONY BARGE CONCERT	50,000		
CI FLOWER & CRAFT SHOW	30,000	30,000	30,000
SUSQUEHANNA RIVER CELEBRATION	7,500	7,500	7,500
AMERICAN MUSICFEST	325,000	375,000	350,000\$
AFRICAN FAMILY FESTIVAL	17,000	17,000	17,000
RESERVOIR PARK CONCERT SERIES	20,000	18,000	18,000
OPERA IN THE PARK	1,000		
SHAKESPEARE IN THE PARK	18,000	18,000	18,000
ITALIAN LAKE CONCERT SERIES	4,500	4,500	5,000
KIPONA	350,000	350,000	350,000
MINI GRAND PRIX	15,000@		
HARRISBURG HOLIDAY PARADE	350,000#	350,000	350,000
CITY HALL HOLIDAY PROGRAM	100	100	100
NEW YEARS EVE CELEBRATION	15,500	15,500	17,000
<b>Totals</b>	<b>1,353,850</b>	<b>1,335,850</b>	<b>1,312,850</b>

These events are those which are planned and organized by the City, or which the City co-sponsored.

\$ Denotes a decrease in attendance due to Canadian Forest Wildfires.

\* Denotes severe rain that had an adverse effect on event attendance.

# Includes television audience.

@ Includes spectators and participants.

Our 2002 figures show an attendance decrease of 23,000 guests, or 2%, from 2001, and a decrease of 41,000 guests, or 3 %, of the 2000 figures. The decrease from 2000 was due to the cancellation of the Mini Grand Prix and the merging of the Opera in the Park and the Harrisburg Symphony Barge Concert into the American Musicfest. The decrease from 2001 to 2002 was due to the cancellation of the last day of the American Musicfest due to the Canadian Wildfires. The Parks and Recreation Department has continued the evolution of its partnerships and co-sponsorships with other major event producers in the region in order to offer as many diverse and appealing events as possible.

<b>PARK PERMITS</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
	94	112	113

Figures do not include City Island or Riverfront Park permits. In 2001, we issued 112 park permits to citizens for exclusive use of the City's parks and playgrounds. The number of park permits issued was 1 more, or .9% more, than last year. The Department issued 18 more permits than in 2000, a 19% increase. The increase is due to the growing popularity of the Harrisburg Parks System.

<b>BANNER PERMITS</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
	11	15	15

In 2002, the Department issued the same amount of banner permits. During 2001, the Department issued 15 banner posting permits. The number has risen from 2000 due to more groups using this affordable method of advertising. However, in 2002, the number has leveled off due to the finite number of locations to hang and number of weeks viable to hang.

#### **REVENUE**

<b>SALES ITEM REVENUES</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
	\$ 2,121	\$ 3,648	\$2,465

During 2002, sales item revenues decreased \$1,183, or 32%, from 2001, due to the decrease in attendance as a result of the Canadian Wild Fires. In 2001, sales item revenues increased \$1,527, or 7%, from 2000.

#### **PARK PERMIT AND BANNER POSTING FEES**

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
Park Permits	\$ 5,799	\$ 8,418	\$7,935
Banner Posting Fees	\$ 1,100	\$ 1,195	\$1,260
Total - Park permit/Banner Fees	\$6,899	\$ 9,613	\$9,195

Park Permit fees do not include revenue from City Island or Riverfront Park permits. (See the City Island Superintendent's report for these figures.) In 2002, total-park permit/ banner fees decreased \$418 from 2001, a 4.3% decrease. The reason for the decrease was due to the parks and playgrounds being rented by the day instead of by the hour. Total Permit/Banner fees increased \$2,714 from 2000, a 39% increase. Park Permit fees in 2002, decreased \$483, or 5.7%, and increased \$2,619 from 2000, a 45% increase. Banner Posting fees increased \$95, or 8.6%, from 2000 to 2001. In 2002, Banner Posting fees increased \$65 or 5.4%.

**SPECIAL EVENT VENDOR REVENUES**

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
American Musicfest	\$25,700	\$29,730	\$45,831
Kipona Celebration	\$46,236	\$51,638	\$38,545
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$71,936*</b>	<b>\$81,368*</b>	<b>\$84,376*</b>

\*Includes revenue for Rides, Kidsfest, and percentages for Arts & Crafts Vendors, & Crabfest.

In 2002, Vendor Revenues increased \$3,008, or 3.7%, from 2001 due to the addition of Crabfest. The Departments 2001 Vendor Revenues increased \$9,432, or 13%, from 2000.

**SPONSORSHIPS**

<b>Event</b>	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
Martin Luther King Essay Contest	\$ 5,000#	\$ 5,000#	\$5,000#
American Musicfest	90,931	126,750	129,738
Italian Lake Concert Series	0	0	0
Reservoir Park Concert Series	0	0	0
Kipona Celebration	89,039	79,750	78,269
Holiday Parade	15,500	10,700	\$2,500
New Year's Eve	22,500	15,500	30,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$222,970</b>	<b>\$237,700</b>	<b>\$245,507</b>

- Includes revenues derived from team entry fees
- # All prizes are funded directly by the sponsor
- @Event was not produced

In 2002, sponsor revenue increased by \$7,807, or 3.3%. In 2001, sponsor revenue increased by \$14,730, or 6.6%, over 2000. This increase was due to more companies using the City's Events as an avenue for event marketing.

**TOTAL REVENUE (SUMMARY)**

	<b>2000</b>	<b>2001</b>	<b>2002</b>
Park Permit	\$ 5,799	\$8,418	\$7,935
Banner Fees	1,100	1,195	1,260
Vendor Revenues	71,936	81,368	84,376
Sales Items	2,121	3,648	2,465
Sponsorships	222,970	237,700	245,507
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$303,926</b>	<b>\$332,329</b>	<b>\$341,543</b>

Total revenues for 2002 were \$9,214, or 2.8%, more than the total revenues for 2001. Total revenues for 2001 were \$28,403 more than 2000, a 9.3% increase.



**BUREAU OF RECREATION**

## **BUREAU OF RECREATION**

### **Overview**

In 2002, the Bureau of Recreation proudly offered year-round recreation programming for the eighteenth consecutive year since 1984 with the major theme, "The Will to Succeed" stressing the holistic approach to self improvement, i.e., to improve both the mind and the body through positive, fun-filled, educational, cultural, and sports/fitness related programming; programming that will expose inner-city youth, in particular, to experiences that will broaden their horizons and build their confidence and self-esteem; thus, setting the stage for their development into positive, motivated, young adults. In addition to the traditional games, sports and fitness workshops, clinics, and leagues, many new games and water activities such as snorkeling, and anger and stress management programs were offered. Carnivals for tennis, basketball, and soccer were offered in place of workshops and leagues for participants of all ages and ethnic backgrounds, whether they resided in the City or not. Nine of the most popular traditional and new programs which attracted thousands of new participants and observers were indoor tennis, The Black History Showcase of Talent, with its auditions, the Fishing Derby, the creation of an ongoing Dance Class, The Black History Month Gala, playground activity days, summer sports and cultural workshops, Kickboxing, and Cardio-Step Classes. With the eighteenth consecutive year of year-round programming, the credible image of the Bureau continued to grow and further establish it as the local leader in recreation programming and activities in the community. **The annual participation figure in all programs for 2002 was 571,668 a 5% increase from 546,860 in 2001.**

Both traditional programs and new activities were organized with specific goals in mind to continue to maintain the very credible reputation of the Bureau to offer safe, positive, fun-filled educational, and culturally-diverse, programs at clean, attractive, well-maintained facilities for very minimal registration fees or for no cost at all. The goals consistently set forth each year to guide the Bureau are the following:

1. To enrich the quality of life in the community by providing pleasurable and constructive leisure opportunities for residents of all ages, backgrounds, and socio-economic classes.
2. To contribute to the physical, emotional, and social growth, health, and development of participants through various recreational experiences.
3. To prevent or minimize destructive uses of leisure time, such as gang behavior and drug abuse by offering young people desirable and enjoyable alternatives.
4. To meet the needs of special populations by guaranteeing access to recreation programs on an integrated basis in the community.
5. To expand cultural experiences in the community by offering courses, special events, and field trips in the multi-ethnic/native arts, fine arts, and performing arts.
6. To provide safety and vocational training and counseling for the recreation bureau program participants and staff.

With the Bureau's goals to guide programming and with input and new ideas from the staff and the community each year, programs were organized and underwritten with funding from the General Fund (\$789,654 in 2002) and corporate sponsorships, grants, and in-kind products

(\$199,200 in 2002). The Bureau's activities were supervised by three (3) permanent employees, a Recreation Director, a Deputy Recreation Director, and Special/Sports Program Coordinator. Other positions, from 35-150 in number, according to the season, were part-time employees.

### **Recreation Bureau Funding Sources**

#### **General Fund - 2002**

##### **0183 Bureau of Recreation**

Personnel Services	\$596,754	(\$516,375 in 2001)
Operating Expenses	\$186,900	(\$151,320 in 2001)
Capital Outlay	\$ 6,000	(\$19,000 in 2001)
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$789,654</b>	<b>(\$689,695 in 2001) (15% increase)</b>

#### **Grants, Corporate Sponsorships, In-kind Services and Products**

Harrisburg Parks Partnership	\$40,000
Soccer Equipment/Clinics	10,000
Tennis Expansion Grant-	3,000
Tennis In-kind Donations-	6,000
School District Rentals -waived	20,000
Kipona Arts and Crafts-	0
Winterfest-Kidsfest	0
McDonald's Coupons	2,000
City Island Fun Day-	1,800
Verizon Computer Class-	15,000
Volleyball Donated Prizes-	15,000
Am. Bus. Women's Drama Tickets-	2,000
Donated Basketballs-	1,000
Bailey's Holiday Trees-	300
Donated Golf Equipment	15,000
Golf Greens & Driving Range Fees-	15,000
Youth Sports Photo Donation-	100
SERTOMA Fright Night Tickets-	500
Heat Tournament and Tickets	2,000
Caps, Mittens, and Scarves Donations	500
Egg Hunt tee-shirts/Give-aways	5,000
Black History Showcase	40,000
Fishing Derby	5,000

**Total = \$199,200 (\$180,900 in 2001; 10% inc.)**

## **Recreation Program Descriptions**

### **Highlights**

### **Participation**

**Winter/Spring Program Cycle** - The Winter Program began, as tradition dictated, the second week of January and ran to mid-March, approximately ten (10) weeks. Programs of orientation, certification, education, arts and crafts, cultural and general recreation were scheduled at elementary school gymnasiums, in the Reservoir Park Mansion, at the Brownstone Building, and in additional Harrisburg facilities, as needed. Special events were organized for the season and with input from the participants. **Through stabilized relationships with the Harrisburg School District superintendent and building principals, the Recreation Bureau maintained its indoor facilities and programs; the winter participation figure totaled 115,760 a 12% increase from 102,960 in 2001.**

### **Highlights and Achievements**

**Recreation Sites** - From January 14 to March 14, Woodward School, Steele School, The Boys and Girls Club and Hamilton School operated for general recreation Monday through Thursday evenings from 5:30pm to 8:30pm. Downey operated two nights per week, 5:30pm to 8:30pm with drama and dance instruction. For no charge to participants, youth, ages 5-16, participated in activities such as arts and crafts, kickball, soccer, basketball, golf instruction, tennis instruction, and youth basketball.

**Aerobics** -Free Low-Impact Aerobics for adults operated as a continuing program at the Brownstone Building in Reservoir Park. Toning and Floor Exercise for adults was also scheduled as a continuing program at the Brownstone Building in Reservoir Park. These programs ran from January through December with breaks only for the holiday season. Each class is offered for two (2) one-hour sessions per week. Again, Kick-boxing and Cardio-Step attracted many new participants looking for free, high-intensity classes. Body Sculpting, 2 days per week and a second session of kick-boxing was added; classes in 2002 were offered 6 days per week.

**Black History Special Events-** The Tenth Annual Black History Month Community Art Exhibit organized by the Art Association of Harrisburg and the Parks and Recreation Department was held February 2 to March 31 at the Reservoir Park Mansion. In addition, as in previous years, Mr. Jerome Williams organized the Black History Month Student Art Exhibit from Hamilton Elementary School which is traditionally exhibited in the Government Center Atrium in February and March. Also, the Bureau organized the Fourth Annual Black History Showcase of Talent to a standing-room-only crowd at the Forum. To help raise money for the Showcase, the Third Black History Month Gala was organized at the Hilton Hotel. Over 700 community members attended the semi-formal dance in February to kick-off Black History Month activities. Recreation site activities repeated from last year included adult panelists that visited elementary school to discuss Harrisburg when they were young, Ngozi drummers and dancers at Hamilton School, Vision Quest Buffalo Soldiers Marching Troupe at Hamilton, and a positive rap artist,

at Hamilton who delivered anti-drug messages to the site participants. Black History videos and speakers were scheduled at the Brownstone for the general public and recreation site participants. Lastly, an historical program focusing on "The Underground Railroad" was organized at the National Civil War Museum. The program was free to the public and attracted a record crowd of over 1500 visitors.

**Computer Classes** - For the fourth year, latch-key instructional computer classes were organized for ten students per class for six weeks with five new computers and printers purchased with funds from the City, the Harrisburg Parks Partnership, and Verizon. Students in 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> grades, recommended by their teachers, were transported from school to the Brownstone and home following classes for no cost to the students. Snacks were provided during each class with graduation ceremonies scheduled at the completion of each class at the Brownstone Building during January, February, and March. For the third year, Senior Computer classes were offered at 10:00am and noon free of charge to area seniors. The theme of the student computer classes involved the incorporation of music with computers.

**Volleyball** - Adult, coed volleyball was not organized at Melrose Elementary School due to on-going construction in the School.

**Annual Egg Hunt**- The Touch radio station for the eighth year collaborated with the Department to attract over 5000 children and parents to Reservoir Park to hunt eggs, visit costumed characters and clowns, visit petting zoos, meet Park C. Squirrel, and take home treat bags, candy, and seed gardens. For the third year, pony rides, Bunny Bingo, and The Harrisburg School District Health Fair were a part of the day's activities.

**Park Clean-ups**-In April, when the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania designated a "Keep PA Clean Day," volunteers from the community, neighborhoods, or City agencies volunteered to clean Reservoir Park by picking up trash, weeding, and spreading tan-bark. This year the Visions Agency again assisted the Department. Following the clean-up, an outdoor lunch was served at no cost to the volunteers at the rear of the Brownstone.

**Golf, Tennis, Soccer** - Indoor programs in these sports were offered at the recreation sites to offer beginner instruction and continuous skill sessions until late spring when summer sessions would be scheduled in the city parks. At the Brownstone Building the golf program attracted over 100 plus youth due to expanded staff and transportation from a generous \$40,000 grant from the United States Golf Association Foundation. The indoor tennis program was conducted at the Hershey Racquet Club and attracted 60 youth.

**Lottsville Biddy Basketball** - Teams of coed players were organized at each recreation site; players, ages 6-14, played league games, playoffs, and finals; the top two teams in each age group earned individual trophies and were treated to a pizza party. This league was co-sponsored by the City and The Lottsville Neighborhood Group. The components stressed were positive recreational activities, parental involvement, passing grades in school, tutoring if needed, and cooperation and good sportsmanship.

**Job/Intern Fairs** - Employees of the Recreation Bureau attended three job fairs in the area to attract new seasonal employees, permanent jobs as they arise, and volunteers. The fairs attended were sponsored by HACC, York College, and Penn State Capital Campus.

**Winter - 2002**  
**PROGRAM PARTICIPATION FIGURES**

**Indoor Recreation Sites** - General Recreation Activities - free; ages 5-16  
 January 14 to March 14; 5-8:30pm; 10 weeks

Steele - Mon.-Thurs. 165 per session (40 sessions)	= 6600
Woodward - Mon. -Thurs. 165 per session (40 sessions)	= 6600
Hamilton - Mon. -Thurs. 165 per session (40 sessions)	= 6600
Downey - Wed. only 100 per session (10 sessions)	= 1000
Boys and Girls Club- Monday thru Thursday 165 per session (40 sessions)	= 6600
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 27,400</b>

**Special Classes, Programs, Activities, and Trips**

CPR/First Aid Courses	= 200
Table Tennis	= 3000
Computer Classes and Graduation(Seniors-new)	= 1000
Indoor Tennis	= 1000
Penn State Job Fair	= 550
Lottsville Biddy Basketball League	= 3800
Golf	= 560
Black History Showcase (Artists, audience, TV)	= 27,000
Arts and Crafts Projects	= 7000
Soccer Instruction and Indoor Games, practices	= 1800
Volleyball	= 0
Aerobics	= 2500
Toning	= 1900
Black History Videos	= 600
Black History School Visits	= 1000
Mansion Black History Art Exhibit	= 400
Hamilton School Art Exhibit	= 7000
Black History Youth Programs	= 750
Egg Hunt participants and parents and volunteers	= 5000
Egg Hunt Handouts and Eggs and Candy	= 20000
Intern and Job Fairs	= 300
Cardio-Step, Kickboxing, and Body Sculpting Classes	= 2000
Black History Gala	= 1000
<b>Total</b>	<b>= 88,360</b>

**Winter Participation Total = 115,760 (102,960 in 2001; 12% increase)**

**Summer Program Cycle-** The Summer Program with the theme “The Will to Succeed” was a great success in 2002 achieving a total participation figure of 390,900. This was a 4% increase over the 2001 figure of 376,700. Preparation for the Summer Program, as in previous years, began in March with the hiring of staff and the purchase of equipment and materials for the months of June, July, and August. The program was organized into three units: playgrounds and related activities, sports leagues and clinics, and aquatics.

**Playgrounds and Related Special Events and Trips - Highlights and Achievements**

**Playground Orientation and Training-** To prepare the full and part-time staff for their assignments with the best knowledge of valid safety procedures, the Department ran its own two week-long training and orientation sessions for Activity Specialists and Recreation Leaders, I, II, and III. In addition, CPR/First Aid Certification was required for full-time staff and the Recreation III Leaders who acted as supervisors at each playground. This Medic Alert two-year certification was free to the employees, compliments of the Department.

**Playgrounds-** Sixteen playgrounds were open with lunches served on fifteen of them from June 10-August 9. Three to six City staff were placed on playgrounds to implement the programs and act as liaisons to the neighborhood. In addition, activity specialists introduced arts and crafts projects, new games such as Koosh ball, fitness games, stress and anger management exercises, and nutrition programs, with “hands-on” fitness cooking and snack classes, at the Brownstone. Also, repeated this summer was a series of Activity Days at 7<sup>th</sup> and Radnor Field and Morrison Park. Special visitors and activities were organized with groups of playgrounds participating and competing against each other in tournaments and games. This allowed the participants to have fun, taught them to be positive with their bodies and minds, and interact and cooperate with youth outside their neighborhoods. Environmental programs and inter-action with special population youth from the Easter Seals organization exposed the City youth to a wide-range of new, fun-filled, positive experiences. In addition to the community and neighborhood children who were serviced at the playgrounds, many daycare agencies, special population groups and individuals with “Wrap-around” youth daily attended our playgrounds and programs. The playground program ended in August with a very successful Romper Day in a three-day special format. The first two days all playgrounds competed in a Track Meet and field day, and the third day all playgrounds went roller skating, received a treat and a special Parks and Recreation lanyard for their i.d. cards and keys. The staffed playgrounds in 2002 were the following:

Wm. Howard Day/Morrison Park	14th and Shoop
Penn and Sayford	Royal Terrace
Penn and Dauphin	Wilson Park
Gorgas	Vernon Street
4th and Emerald	Hispanic Center
4th and Dauphin	Cloverly Heights
Lottsville	Pool #2 –not staffed
19th and Forster-Pleasant View	Norwood
Reservoir Park	

**Playground Participation Figure- Total –142,000**



## **Summer Leagues, Clinics, Carnivals - Highlights and Achievements**

**Activity Days-** The special carnival-styled programs were scheduled four times during the summer at Morrison Park and 7<sup>th</sup> and Radnor Field. Included in the multiple playgrounds' scheduled activities were rollerblading, reading sessions by literacy volunteers, nutritional snacks, parachute games, basketball, races, foosball, double dutch rope jumping. Cooperation and competition among participants and staff from multiple playgrounds taught many important life skills.

**Aerobics-** Toning and Floor Classes with the traditional Low-impact Aerobics continued to be popular free attractions to ladies and gentlemen looking for walk-in exercise programs of medium intensity. Both classes were scheduled in the City-owned, air-conditioned Brownstone Building which kept the cost of the programs minimal for the Recreation Bureau and free to the participants. Kick-boxing and cardio-step classes, with the new Body Sculpting, also attracted the "in-shape" participants for high intensity workouts.

**Track-**As in previous years, the Department sponsored the local Hershey Track and Field Program, organized local winners to attend the District Hershey Meet, and sent a small group of local youth to the State Meet in State College. In addition, the Department organized practices at the John Harris Field two nights per week and traveled with these participants to numerous all-call meets in Gettysburg, Millersville, and Carlisle.

**Basketball-**The Department did not sponsor a youth or adult male basketball league during the summer months. Energy and funds were channeled to playground basketball activities and a female youth league in Reservoir Park two nights per weeks.. Traditionally, the Over-18 Women League was organized with eight teams playing at Bishop McDevitt High School. Prizes of tee-shirts and championship sweatshirts were awarded to individual players on the Championship and Runner-up teams. In addition, the Recreation Bureau co-sponsored the Ujima Teen League organized by Kaaba Brunson and Destry Mangus by underwriting the cost of the league tee-shirts.

**Tennis-** Free summer tennis activities for youth were scheduled at four (4) sites throughout the City; Reservoir Park, Sunshine Park, John Harris High School, and William Penn Middle School Instruction M-F, from June through August, concluded in a City-youth tournament with trophies being awarded to the top players in three age groups. Adult lessons were offered at John Harris for eight weeks with a minimal cost being charged. The second adult tennis program attracted over 90 people to HACC for the Harrisburg Open Tennis Tournament. At the conclusion of the summer, the youth and adults were invited to attend the Arthur Ashe Day at the US Open Tennis Complex free of charge. All who attended were thrilled to meet and see many tennis greats who helped with clinics and fun matches that day.

**Junior Golf -** The Junior Golf Program was the most extensive ever in its seventh year as part of the Summer Parks and Recreation Program. Indoor sessions in January, February, and March were offered at indoor sites to attract additional participants to the Summer Program, which ran from June to August. Youth ages 6-16 participated in a deluxe yet totally free junior golf program thanks to the City, the Harrisburg Parks Partnership and a \$40,000 grant from the

United States Golf Assoc. Foundation for the second year. During the summer, City youth could attend sessions Monday through Friday from 9-noon in Reservoir Park for free instruction. As part of that program, youth also visited golf courses or driving ranges or both each week as part of the program. In addition, these same participants played with pros in the Buy.com Pro-Am, attended a clinic with golf pro Jim Furyk, and attended a golf clinic and played golf with corporate sponsors at the Mayor's Annual Golf Outing in August at Dauphin Highlands Golf Course. The junior golfers received free shirts, hats, and, in some cases, free golf clubs and trophies.

**Soccer-**Soccer in the summer is evidenced by a number of different programs. Free soccer demonstrations for beginners were scheduled at each of the seventeen playgrounds. Playground youth and the community youth were also invited to a free one-week day camp at 7th and Radnor Field for all levels of play. Again, the Dauphin County Agency on Drug and Alcohol helped underwrite the cost of the clinic; HEAT and Parks and Recreation staff acted as instructors for the week-long day clinic. Shirts, water bottles, and balls were given to all the attendees compliments of the Department and Dauphin County. If the youth wished to attend free evening soccer sessions at three fields in the evenings from June to August, they could also participate in these sessions free of charge to receive additional instruction or practice their skills. The Department with the HEAT also offered ten free registrations for a 3-on-3 Tournament at City Island in July. In August or earlier, the youth were encouraged to register for fall teams with the Harrisburg Youth Soccer Club. Team registration costs are minimal since the cost of the teams is partially underwritten by the Department of Parks and Recreation, the Harrisburg Parks Partnership, and private donations.

**Volleyball-**Volleyball on City Island has grown in the last six years to boast the largest participation figures in the State and possibly the nation for a schedule of sand league games and sand tournaments. Last year the league had over 220 teams and over 800 participants. Four tournaments were popular and were scheduled on the major holiday weekends. League play also took place at Sunshine Park since new fencing around the courts improved playing conditions for the men's teams which were not all able to be accommodated at City Island. Finally, in addition to the men's play, activity at Sunshine involved the coordinators of the sand league teaching clinics for the teen participants of the summer playground program in basic volleyball skills.

**Arts and Crafts-** At two special events, the Department offered free arts and crafts instruction and handouts for youth ages 5-10. The events were the National Kids Day in Reservoir Park and the African Festival. Projects such as painters hats, yo-yo's, visors, sunglasses, masks, frames, and many other projects were organized for children and their parents to create together. The projects or kits were purchased with funds from the Department; the staff were Recreation Bureau employees. In addition, the Department organized arts and crafts at the Downey School Fair, and the HACC Diversity Festival,

**Summer/Sports/Arts Camps-** Giant Foods, Inc. helped sponsor a series of six (6) one (1) week summer day camps free to City youth. Camps included the following and were very successful: football, cheerleading, drama, dance, ladies basketball, boy's basketball. Tee-shirts, certificates, and trophies were give to each participant.

**Summer Computer Classes** - Computer classes were offered to each staffed playground for a one week period. Classes of 20 youth visited the Brownstone to learn the basics of computer music programs. At the end of the week, each youth "burned" a musical compact disk as a memento of the summer program. In addition, youth documented the environment surrounding each playground, stored it on a computer CD, and printed displays.

## **2002 Summer Special Events, Leagues, and Clinics Participation**

Special Events, Activity Days, Handouts	78,000
Playground Orientation and Training	5,200
Track	7,500
Teen Basketball Activities	4,600
Aerobics	6,000
Tennis	7,000
Golf	5,500
Volleyball (Unstructured)	12,000
Volleyball Leagues and Tournaments	38,000
Romper Week	3,500
Jazz Under the Stars/Reception	4,000
Women's Basketball League	2,800
Summer Soccer	3,000
Music Comp. Classes	4,000
National Kids Day	3,000
Hbg. School Dist. Homeless Program	3,000
Summer Camps	1,500

**2002 Summer Special Events, Leagues, and Clinics Participation- 181,100 (7% increase over 168,100 in 2001).**

**Aquatics and Pools-** The City of Harrisburg's Summer Aquatics Programs operated at two (2) seasonal swimming facilities from Memorial Day to Labor Day, 2000:

1. Cloverly Heights Pool, S. 18<sup>th</sup> Street
2. City Island Beach, north end of City Island

Pool #1 at the rear of 1201 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street Uptown Harrisburg was not operational until July 15<sup>th</sup> due to a major underground leak in the main pool pipe system.

The aquatics staff, totaling forty-seven (43) part-time employees, filled the positions of manager, assistant manager, lifeguard, cashier, monitor, and concession worker.

Aquatics activities were organized into three (3) basic components:

1. Training, certification, and orientation; Participation = 2,100
2. Learn-to-Swim; Participation = 1,500
3. Recreation swimming by general public and city youth-related agencies;

Pool #1	Participation =18,000
Pool #2	Participation =21,700
City Island	Participation =24,500

The participation for all related aquatics activities totaled 67,800 in 2002; this was a slight decrease from the total participation of 70,000 in 2001; the decrease was slight due to Pool #1 opening one month late in an otherwise busy summer.

### **Aquatics - Highlights and Achievements**

**Aquatics Training-** Training for lifeguards, monitors, and concession workers was scheduled from April to the end of August. Courses for CPR/First Aid, Lifeguard Training, Water Safety Instruction, and Instructing Lifeguard Certification were organized for the employees of the City for minimal cost or for free. The classes were organized at the Reservoir Park Mansion, the Brownstone Building, and at Pool #1 and #2. This implementation of in-house certification enabled the Department to certify all personnel according to Commonwealth requirements for very minimal costs and also allows the City to offer very, inexpensive Learn-to-Swim lessons since three (3) City staff are Learn-to-Swim and Lifeguard certified instructors.

In-house training continued daily at each facility with safety drills and during routine pool and beach checks. Equipment was inspected four times daily during each pool or beach check as was water quality and clarity. No major accidents occurred at any of the swimming facilities, and City Island Beach, Pool #1, and Pool #2 were inspected and staff evaluated by The Commonwealth and received above average ratings at each visit.

**Learn-to-Swim Classes-** Learn-to-Swim classes were held for beginners and advanced beginners for both youth and adults at Pool #2. Community residents, as well as day camp participants and church youth groups, participated in the two-week sessions. The Parks and Recreation Department collected a \$5.00 administrative fee for each person; this was passed directly to the Harrisburg Red Cross Chapter. At the completion of the youth courses, the Department rewarded participants with certificates, ribbons, candy, and tee-shirts or some other hand-out. At the conclusion of the adult course, the participants were invited to a celebration picnic at the pool.

**Recreational Swimming-** Recreational or "fun" swimming filled much of the daily schedules at the pools and City Island Beach. Pools operated Tuesdays through Friday, noon to 7:00pm.; Saturdays and Sundays, 1:00 to 7:30pm. The Beach operated from noon to 7:00pm daily. Traditionally, the pools are closed on Mondays and City Island Beach on Wednesdays for maintenance. The greatest increase in participation in the last two or three years has been with the visitation of daycares, daycamps, church groups, and playgrounds. Participants registered with one of these groups receive discounted rates or swim for free because an agency has purchased a group pass.

**2002 Summer Total Participation -**

<b>Playgrounds -</b>	<b>142,000</b>
<b>Clinics/Leagues -</b>	<b>181,100</b>
<b>Aquatics -</b>	<b>67,800</b>
<b>Total -</b>	<b>390,900 (376,700 in 2001; 4% increase)</b>

**Fall Program Cycle-** The Fall Program sponsored by the Department of Parks and Recreation began the second week of October and finished the second week of December. With the enthusiasm and hard work of the Director of Recreation, the Deputy Director of Recreation and Sports/Special Program Coordinator, five (5) general recreation sites became available to the Department from the Harrisburg School District; four (4) operated four (4) nights per week and one (1) operated two nights per week. Melrose Gym was once again unavailable as an Adult Coed Volleyball site with pick-up games played two nights per week. **The loss of sites due to rehabilitation and construction projects in the Harrisburg School District and the new Explore Program did adversely affect the total participation figure for the fall cycle, the total for 2002 was 65,008; the total for 2001 was 70,800 an 8% decrease. Fall soccer, soccer tournaments, aerobics, traditional field trips, and a continuation of holiday related projects filled the calendar of events.**

**Highlights and Achievements**

**Recreation Sites-** The School District Recreation sites scheduled activities from 5:00pm to 8:30pm, October 14 to December 12, at no cost to the participants, ages 5-16. Hamilton, Woodward, and Steele and the Boys and Girls Club on Hanover Street were open Monday through Thursday. Downey was open two nights per week. The relationship with the Harrisburg School District has developed into a very strong one, and all parties strived to increase the number of indoor sites available to the Harrisburg youth. Once the rehab projects are completed, the goal for next year will be to expand one additional site on Allison Hill for four nights for general recreation and special programs.

**Penn State Intern/Job Fair-** The Department was one of hundreds of agencies who displayed job and intern opportunities for the fall, winter and summer. Approximately 2700 students visited the fair to collect information on future placement opportunities.

**Soccer League-**The Harrisburg Youth Soccer Club, working with the Department, sponsored twelve (12) intramural soccer teams for youth ages 5-10. Thanks to the Department and the Harrisburg Parks Partnership for extra funding, the soccer program gave every participant a great playing schedule on Saturday mornings, a uniform, shinguards, a ball, a trophy, and an awards banquet at Goodwin Memorial Church. The soccer coordinator and all the coaches, referees, and parents along with the players should be commended for a great season.

**Verizon Foundation Computer Workshops-**The free fall Computer Classes for youth and seniors underwritten in part by Verizon, the City, and the Harrisburg Parks Partnership and free to seniors was discontinued temporarily in the mornings for two days per week. Hardware, software, printers, and scanner problems put the program on hold. In addition, the internet access was unavailable due to technical problems. Repair of the internet line and upgrading of the hardware and software will make all programs possible for summer 2003.

**Aerobics-**Free Low Impact, Toning Classes, Kickboxing, Cardio-Step and Body Sculpting continued into fall from the winter and summer cycle at the Brownstone Building at no cost to the participants, adults over 18 years of age. Plans again were formulated to retain two instructors, hire one additional instructor and have all instructors certified in additional classes. This commitment to upgrade the number and certification of the instructors will result in two additional classes for the year 2002. Registration on site at the first visit is mandatory.

**Fishing Derby-** This fourth annual very popular free activity, the brainstorm of the Deputy Director, again attracted over 5000 fishing enthusiasts, workers, sponsors, volunteers and curious on-lookers. The Jackson-Lick Pool filled with the pool water from summer swimming (without the chlorine) seemed to be the perfect habitat for over 1200 hybrid striped bass, ranging in size from 12-24 inches. Populations of various segments of the City fished for four days and had a great experience. On the fifth day, all remaining fish were scooped from the pool; Prizes for catching tagged fish and for other contests were donated by area vendors and agencies. Again, Dr. Frederick Rommel was invaluable as the aqua-biologist from the Dept. of Agriculture who assisted in the water quality for the fish. In 2002, a casting contest continued as an additional challenge to fishermen of all ages. Additionally, Leo Dunn, from the Department of Agriculture donated the materials and printing for the brochures and posters.

**City Island Fun Day-** Again, this annual special event sponsored by the City and the Keystone Aquatics Club in October highlighted, free of charge, fall-type activities with a visit to City Island. More than 125 youth participated with our staff and parent chaperones to decorate pumpkins from Herr's Farms, have lunch at City Island Pavilion, ride the Riverboat, play Water Golf, and ride the City Island train and carousel. The Club again took a very active role in the day by grilling hotdogs and hamburgers for the participants. Tee-shirts for the youth to keep as a memento of the day were underwritten by the Keystone Aquatics Club. Photos, a thank-you banner and the many thank-you's from the participants and staff on the day of the event were assurances that the Club's support is appreciated. New activities in 2002 included visits to the indoor arcade and climbing on a rock wall.

**Fright Night-** Once again, The SERTOMA Club sponsored the free scary activities on City Island and invited one hundred-fifty recreation site participants to visit the activities at discounted prices to the Department. The Halloween activity is a safe, fun-filled outing for the City youth.

**Holiday Events and Programs-** Both traditional and new activities brought the 2002 program year to a grand finish. The Door Decorating Contest for City Departments and Bureaus was a modest success with five (5) decorated doors focusing on the theme, "A Nation Strong in Spirit". This theme was also the Holiday Parade theme; the Bureau helped organize the parade units and

also entered a float based on a Santa-related sleigh decorated in red-white and blue colors. The Parade kicked off the opening of the City Island's Holiday Light Display on public display throughout the holiday season. The Holiday Celebration in City Hall December 16 honored the Coloring Contests Winners from the elementary schools and the winners of the Door Decorating Contest. A total of 200 caps, mittens, and scarves were collected for agencies in town and delivered by Santa. The recreation site participants celebrated the closing of the recreation sites for the holidays by participating in a skating party. A pizza party, compliments of the Harrisburg Parks and Recreation Department was also held at the skating party. In 2002, the Department also collected money to purchase and deliver twelve (12) food and gift baskets to families in need from the recreation sites.

**Harrisburg Dance Classes-** A new pre-teen and teen program designed to teach basic dance steps for fun, exercise, and to act as a feeder program for the Black History Showcase of Talent Dance Ensemble was implemented for the second year. Classes for two age groups ranging from 8-18 are scheduled for two hours sessions twice a week at Downey Elementary School.

**Drama/Poetry Classes-** Workshops in creative writing were scheduled 2 days per week at Downey School. Free to ages 8-18, the classes encouraged creativity of the spoken word.

#### Fall - 2002 PROGRAM PARTICIPATION FIGURES

**Indoor Recreation Sites** -General Recreation Activities-free; ages 6-15  
October 15 to December 13; 5-8:30pm; 10weeks

Boys and Girls Club – Hanover Street (Foosse was not open due to construction.)	=4422
Woodward - Mon.-Thur. 170 per session (40 sessions)	=4422
Hamilton - Mon.-Thur. 170 per session (40 sessions)	=4422
Lincoln – (Under construction; not available.)	
Downey – Wednesdays and Thursdays 30 per session (10 sessions)	= 777
Steele - Mon.- Thur. 150 per session (20 sessions)	=4422
<b>Total =</b>	<b>18,358</b>

#### **Special Classes, Programs, Activities, and Trips**

Black History Showcase Auditions	= 500+
City of Hbg. Dance Ensemble and Classes	= 300
Penn State Capital Job and Intern Fair	= 2700
Soccer League	= 8000
**HEAT Professional Games	= 300
New Games, Basketball, Floor Activities	=11,000
Soccer Tournament	= 500
Fall Golf	= 250
Aerobics	= 4500

Fishing Derby - Participants, volunteers, and staff	= 5000
Volleyball –no facility available	= 0
City Island Fun Day	= 300
Fright Night	= 500
Door Decorating Contest	= 100
Coloring Contest and Santa Letters	= 1400
Holiday Award Ceremony	= 250
Caps and Mitten Collection/Distribution	= 300
Recreation Sites Holiday Skating Party	= 600
Recreation Site Informational and Holiday Handouts	= 5000
Parade Float and Double Dutch Marchers and dancers and remote car handlers	= 150
Holiday Rec. Site Arts and Crafts and Handouts	= 5000

**2002 Fall Participation Total = 65,008 (70,800 in 2001; 8% decrease)**

**2002 Total Recreation Figure – 571,688 (2001 – 546,860; 5% increase)**

#### **2002 Major Achievements**

1. Despite extremely tight budget constraints, the Recreation Bureau received 15% increase in the general fund budget to maintain the quality and number of existing programs with modest expansion.
2. Indoor Tennis Program and related youth tennis programs won Middle States/Central Penn Non-Profit Community Award in Excellence for a second time and a \$1000 “Poised for Growth” grant.
3. Annual Tennis Trip to Arthur Ashe was a big success with 81 youth and adults attending pre-US Open Festivities for free; many celebrities and tennis pros were on hand to entertain and mix with they youth.
4. Introduction of the “Will to Succeed” theme for the Summer Enrichment program which incorporated new games and programs for the youth: fitness, stress and anger management, nutrition, rollerblading, activity days in two major parks, new games such as koosh ball, frisbee golf, etc. and Giant Foods, Inc. sponsored Summer Day Camps.
5. Expansion of the summer junior golf activities and trips with a \$40,000 grant from the United States Golf Association Foundation to include visits to major golf courses, tournaments, and clinics; one highlight was a trip to Hershey to attend a clinic conducted by Jim Furyk. 2002 was the second year that the USGA Foundation awarded the Department \$40,000 for the Junior Golf Program.
6. Implementation of the Verizon, Grant to establish The Computer Learning Workshop Music Program at the Brownstone Building continued for the second summer. .



7. Sponsorship of the activities of the Harrisburg Youth Soccer Club by the D.C. Drug and Alcohol, the HEAT Pro Soccer Team, and the Harrisburg Parks Partnership resulting in \$12,000 in support.
8. Organization of Black History Showcase auditions for the second year for the annual show highlighting area youth. Over 150 acts auditioned.
9. Maintaining four very popular community-wide special programs, the Fishing Derby, the Harrisburg Dance Ensemble and instructional classes,(to perform at events,) The Black History Showcase of Talent, and the Black History Gala to raise funds for the Showcase of Talent.

## **BUREAU OF PARKS MAINTENANCE**

## Overview

The Bureau of Parks Maintenance operations reached new heights in 2002 due, in part, to an increase in the amount of machines purchased and equipment replaced over the past ten years. Since 1992, the entire fleet assigned to this Bureau has been replaced with State-of-the-art vehicles, all of which contain aluminum dump beds, tool boxes, salt spreaders, and snow plows as accessories. In 1992, we ordered a new fleet of vehicles; in 1992, we purchased a new bucket truck; purchased a small trash packer; and in 1996, we purchased new walk-behind push mowers, one new 72" riding mower, and several new chainsaws as well as other additional lawn mowers were purchased with 72" cutting decks to assist us with our maintenance responsibilities. In 1998, two new trucks and a new brush cutting unit were purchased. In 1999, we purchased an additional 4 wheel drive vehicle. In 2002, the Department purchased a Bark Blower. These purchases have led to an increase in productivity with no increase in the number of employees.

The Bureau of Parks Maintenance is directly responsible for: the maintenance of twenty-eight parks, playgrounds, and open space areas, two pools, a lake, twenty vacant parcels, two softball fields, one combination sports complex, numerous basketball and tennis courts, 450+ acres of turf (which is mowed weekly), 4.5 miles of Riverfront embankment, and a 1,200 acre Greenbelt; the removal of trash and debris from the City's parks and playgrounds; snow removal from the City's parks, playgrounds, public steps, and bridge sidewalks; and the care of 50,000 shade trees located on City property.

Special events are also a major responsibility of the employees in the Bureau. These same individuals also assist with set-up and tear-down for 200 City events ranging from daily park permits issued for private functions to large scale community festivals such as the American Musicfest and Kipona Celebrations.

In the past eighteen years, City Island, once vacant, has been transformed into a regional recreational facility which offers miniature train rides, Riverboat rides, minor league baseball, a multipurpose sports complex, volleyball, miniature golf, a turn-of-the-century Beach House, and food concessions, and which annually plays host to hundreds of thousands of area residents and tourists. Harrisburg's park system has not experienced this level of commitment since the City Beautification Movement dating back to the turn-of-the-last-century. Ten years ago, a superintendent was hired to oversee construction, maintenance, merchant operations, and permit activities on City Island. (See City Island Superintendent report for more information.)

## **2002 Annual report**

### **City Island**

#### **Skyline**

- stripped and rewaxed floors in the restroom, locker rooms and concession area
- repaired locker and restroom facilities (general usage)
- replaced flooring and wall boards in locker room/restroom facilities
- cut and maintained field and lawn areas
- verta cut, seeded, aerated, and fertilized field area
- placed sand and maintained volleyball courts
- repaired railings and steps (as needed)
- set up and clean up for picnics and special events
- set up and clean up for sporting events (football, soccer, softball, etc.)
- placed wood carpet under fitness equipment
- cleaned restrooms on a daily basis (during open season)
- cut weeds and growth on embankments
- weeded, placed herbicide, planted all planter beds
- winterized and dewaterized restroom and locker room facilities
- set up and decorated for Winterfest
- removed trash on a daily basis (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- edged out fence line and added gravel to create a warning track

### **Riverside Village**

- clean up of mud and debris from minor flooding
- re-seeded and planted entire area
- removed dead or damaged trees and shrubs
- cut embankments
- maintained overlook, walkways, steps, and hand railings
- cleaned and repainted Riverview Pavilion
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- winterized and moved all City-owned buildings
- set up and decorated area for Winterfest
- winterize restroom facilities
- assisted vendors as needed or requested
- trimmed all trees in this area
- repaired, prepared and repainted all of the buildings
- cleaned restroom building twice on a daily basis from March thru October
- repainted restroom building and installed new tile floors in both the men's and women's room
- rehung new doors on restroom building

## **City Island (continued)**

### **Log Cabin Area**

- clean up mud and debris from minor flooding
- Re-seeded and planted entire area
- thoroughly cleaned and disinfected John Harris Trading Post
- removed damaged trees
- cut and maintained lawn area
- weeded, placed herbicide, planted, and mulched garden areas and planters
- repaired, replaced, and maintained building, wooden walkways, ramps, and railings
- planted (3) tree's

### **Riverboat and Area**

- clean up of entire boat launch area (mud and debris) walkways, and ramps
- assisted with placement and removal of riverboat docks
- repaired damaged docks and walkways
- assisted with placement and removal of Riverboat

### **Harbourtown Playground**

- mud and debris clean up from minor flooding
- placed woodcarpet around buildings and play apparatus (200 cubic yards)
- repaired and placed equipment
- cut and maintained all lawn areas
- cut back growth along fence line
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- repaired, prepared and painted all wooden structures and fencing

### **Beachhouse**

- mud and debris clean up from minor flooding
- wash down, clean, and disinfect entire lower level
- wash down and clean beach area
- removed all damaged trees
- cleaned and organized second floor
- made repairs as needed
- installed and removed buoys for swimming area
- installed and removed lifeguard chairs
- removed weeds and sprayed beach area
- made all necessary repairs as needed

- organized and assisted military personnel with the total rehabilitation and painting of the exterior.

### **Beachhouse (continued)**

- cut and maintained all lawn areas
- dewinterized and winterized building
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- cleaned and maintained restroom and shower facilities
- decorated for Winterfest

### **RiverSide Stadium**

- set up area for the season
- make all repairs not covered by contracts
- cut and clean embankments, parking lots, etc,
- weeded, placed herbicide, planted and mulched in all planters and beds
- assisted and prepared for opening of baseball
- repaired and replaced plumbing fixtures
- cleaned and disinfected entire clubhouse and concession areas
- exercised all flood doors (6)
- winterized and dewinterized buildings and trailers
- painted ticket booths (2)
- maintained all landscaped areas
- maintained all bleachers and seating
- placed stone dust on walk path along Championship Drive

### **Miscellaneous**

- removed all dead or dangerous trees
- thinned out and trimmed trees throughout City Island
- all lawn areas were graded and re-seeded
- placed barges for concerts, festivals, etc. (Riverfront lower walkway)
- cut and maintained all lawn areas and embankments, roadways, parking lots, ramps, bridges, etc.
- planted, placed herbicide, mulched, and weeded all garden areas
- repainted City-owned buildings (Ranger Station, work sheds, etc.)
- planted arborvitae and trees around sewage pump station on north parking lot
- rehabilitation of Park Ranger Station interior which includes new counter, and new tile floor.

### **Miscellaneous (continued)**

- trimmed and removed trees for South Pointe Marina
- placed concrete sealer on Carousel Field Pavilion floor

### **Riverfront Park**

- edged and cleaned curb line along entire park (4.5 miles)
- snow removal (walkways, steps, Swenson Plaza) and Walnut Street Bridge
- raised, and removed dead wood and trimmed trees from Forster Street to Dock Street Dam (274 trees)
- planted various trees
- removed storm damaged and dead trees
- repaired upper and lower walks (as needed)
- removed mud and debris from minor flooding (lower walk)
- removed weeds and sprayed (lower walk)
- filled in washouts and sinkholes (as needed)
- cut and maintained all lawn areas
- maintained all overlooks and steps
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once per week (winter)
- maintained, planted, placed herbicide flower beds and formal gardens
- cut and maintained river bank (north City line to Dock Street Dam area) (as needed)
- repaired, replaced, and painted benches and trash receptacles
- repaired and painted overlook and step railings
- regraded and seeded various areas (as needed)
- set up, tear down, and clean up of all special events
- placed wood carpet on para-course
- removed and reinstalled wrought iron handrails on the steps and ramps leading to the lower level
- created planted beds around monuments and overlooks i.e., Firemen's Monument and Women's W.W. II Monument

### **Sunken Garden**

- clean up of flower beds, place herbicide, replant and mulch (all beds)
- cut and maintained lawn areas
- trimmed and shaped hedges
- weeded and maintained beds
- repair and replace signage (as needed)
- repair irrigation system as needed
- repaired Gazebo and resealed with wood preservative

## **Kunkel Plaza**

- planted new plant material
- weeded, placed herbicide, and maintained planted areas
- mulched all areas
- cleaned and pressure washed entire area (as needed)
- repairs to irrigations system
- removed graffiti (as needed)
- replaced signage (to deter misuse of area)
- set-up, tear-down, and general clean-up of special events
- trimmed all trees in this area (10)
- placed skate stoppers on concrete benches and planters
- repaired hand rails

## **Reservoir Park**

- placed woodcarpet on playground area (300 cubic yards)
- removed snow and ice on walkways, roadways, steps, and parking areas
- repaired damage and vandalism to all facilities
- repaired, painted, and replaced park benches
- repainted or replaced trash barrels
- trimmed and removed dead wood from trees throughout park
- removed dead or dangerous trees
- cleaned up storm damage (as needed)
- cut and maintained all lawn areas and embankments
- maintained arts village buildings
- maintained Mansion
- maintained bandshell, restrooms, pavilion, and Ranger station
- winterized, dewaterized, cleaned and maintained fountains, pumps, and electric
- weeding, mulching, placed herbicide all gardens, planted beds, etc.
- winterized, dewaterized and made repairs to restroom facilities
- planted new trees
- maintained extensive gardens including but not limited to: entrance areas, Mansion gardens fountain area, drift gardens, lower reservoir embankment, arts village, and Brownstone area
- planted shrubs, flowers, and trees at 18<sup>th</sup>, Whitehall, and Walnut Streets traffic island
- replanted trees as needed
- snow removal throughout the park, i.e., (NCWM, Mansion, Art buildings, Brownstone, etc.)
- planted sixteen tree's along fairway



### **Italian Lake**

- removed all dead or dangerous trees
- thinned out and trimmed all trees throughout Italian Lake
- cut and maintained lawn areas
- removed dead trees and brush
- painted, repaired, or replaced benches
- weeded, placed herbicide, edged, and tanbarked all beds
- repaired restrooms facilities
- winterized restrooms and fountain
- added chemicals for aquatic weed control
- trimmed hedges
- removed weeds and growth from fence line
- added copper sulfate for algae control
- removed snow (all walkways and steps)
- placed aerifiers in Lake
- removed trash daily; did regular clean up
- made all necessary repairs as needed
- had bowmanite walkways repaired, cleaned and sealed
- planted arborvitaes
- planted trees
- replaced all dead plants and shrubs

### **Monument Plot**

- removed all dead trees
- thinned out and trimmed all trees
- cut and maintained lawn areas
- removed snow from walkways
- regular clean up

### **Braxton Playground**

- cut and maintained lawn areas
- repaired and/or replaced damaged equipment
- repaired damaged gate
- cleared fence line of growth, weeds, and debris
- sprayed fence line with weed killer
- regular clean up
- removed trash daily
- removed snow and ice from walkways
- replaced woodcarpet as needed

#### **7<sup>th</sup> and Radnor Ballfield**

- repaired plumbing in concession and restroom building
- filled in depressions and over-seeded field
- edged and cut back infield to bring up to baseball standards
- added infield material, where needed
- cut and maintained field area
- repaired backstop, fencing, and bleachers (as needed)
- cleaned and maintained basketball courts area
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- cleaned restrooms on a daily basis
- winterized and dewaterized restroom and concession building
- removed snow and ice from walkways
- placed woodcarpet under fitness center
- rebuilt the pitchers mound and home plate area
- installed netting to protect foul balls and soccer balls from going onto private property
- replaced/repainted benches and bench boards

#### **Gorgas Playground**

- cut and maintained lawn areas
- filled depressions and seeded (as needed)
- placed woodcarpet under play apparatus
- repaired play apparatus and benches
- painted play apparatus (as needed)
- trimmed trees
- removed storm damaged trees
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- removed snow and ice from walkways
- maintenance and clean up performed on a routine basis
- replaced the roof on the pavilion
- replaced/repainted benches

#### **4<sup>th</sup> and Emerald Streets Playground**

- fill in depressions and seeded (as needed)
- cut and maintained lawn areas
- maintained pavilion and basketball courts
- repaired, removed, and replaced damaged equipment
- added woodcarpet under and around play apparatus
- cleaned fence lines of weeds and growth

- removed trash once a week (winter)
- replaced/repainted benches

#### **4<sup>th</sup> and Emerald Streets Playground (continued)**

- cleared snow and ice from walkways
- trimmed trees on and around play area (as needed)
- trimmed shrubs
- topped out dead tree's for removal

#### **4<sup>th</sup> and Dauphin Streets Playground**

- cut and maintained lawn area
- maintained basketball court and play apparatus (as needed)
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- removed snow from walkways
- placed woodcarpet under play apparatus
- replaced damaged play apparatus
- repaired damaged fence
- replaced/repainted benches

#### **Penn and Dauphin Streets Playground**

- removed old play apparatus and assisted contractor with total rehabilitation of this site
- maintained lawn areas
- repaired play apparatus and equipment (as needed)
- placed safety material under play apparatus
- removed trash daily (spring , summer, fall)
- removed snow from walkways-cleared fence line of weeds and growth
- planted four trees at this site

#### **Penn and Sayford Streets Playground**

- cut and maintained lawn areas
- maintained park and paved areas
- repaired, replaced, or removed damaged equipment
- removed weeds and growth from fence lines
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed ice and snow from walkways
- placed woodcarpet material under play apparatus

### **5<sup>th</sup> and Harris Playground**

- cut and maintained lawn areas
- repaired, replaced, or removed damaged equipment
- removed weeds and growth from fence lines
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- removed snow and ice from walkways
- placed woodcarpet under play apparatus

### **Morrison Park (formerly known as Sunshine Park)**

- cut and maintained lawn area
- cleaned and maintained pavilion, basketball, tennis, and sand volleyball courts
- scarified and drug softball field
- aerated and re-seeded grass area of field
- repaired restroom facilities
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- added infield material to bring field up to standards
- trimmed or removed trees as needed
- cut and maintained embankments
- repainted practice wall (tennis)

### **Wilson Park Playground**

- repair and paint picnic tables
- cut and maintained lawn area
- trimmed and removed trees
- placed woodcarpet under play apparatus
- repaired equipment (as needed)
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed snow from walkways

### **Royal Terrace Playground**

- cut and maintained lawn areas
- removed weeds and growth from fence lines
- placed woodcarpet under all apparatus
- repaired, replaced, or removed damaged equipment
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- cut and maintained Linden Terrace plot
- cleaned and opened all storm sewers and drain lines
- replaced/repainted benches

### **Vernon Street Playground**

- cut and maintained lawn areas
- cut back forsythia bushes
- removed weeds and growth from fence lines
- repaired, replaced, or removed damaged equipment
- repainted grills and equipment (as needed)
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- removed snow and ice from walkways
- maintained pavilion (as needed)
- removed all equipment and prepared site for total rehabilitation
- cut and maintain lawn areas

### **Norwood Street Playground**

- placed woodcarpet under all play apparatus
- repaired, replaced, or removed damaged equipment
- cut and maintained lawn areas
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- repaired fencing
- removed dead trees

### **19<sup>th</sup> and Forster Streets Playground**

- cut and maintained lawn area
- repaired, replaced, or removed damaged equipment
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- removed snow and ice from walkways
- repaired fence
- trimmed trees and removed dead wood
- placed woodcarpet under play apparatus

### **14<sup>th</sup> and Shoop Streets Playground**

- repaired and replaced damaged equipment
- repaired gates and fencing
- maintained garden area and planters

### **14<sup>th</sup> and Shoop Streets Playground (continued)**

- cut and maintained lawn areas
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- removed ice and snow from walkways
- removed vandalized water fountain

### **Cloverly Heights Playground**

- repaired and replaced basketball back boards
- repaired fencing
- repaired, removed, or replaced damaged equipment
- repaired park benches
- cut and maintained lawn areas
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)
- removed snow and ice from walkways
- repaired damaged walkway
- placed woodcarpet under all apparatus
- repainted pavilion and all play apparatus

### **Shipoke Playground**

- filled sinkholes and reseeded area
- repaired and replaced play equipment
- repaired fence, pavilion, and benches
- removed snow and ice from walkways
- trimmed trees
- replanted trees
- cut and maintained lawn area
- removed trash daily (spring, summer, fall)
- removed trash once a week (winter)

### **Pool #1**

- repaired buildings and painted as needed
- cleaned fence lines of weeds and growth
- replaced/repaired filter house, locker rooms, and office area doors
- made repairs as needed/or requested
- maintained lawn areas and pool deck
- performed routine maintenance and clean up

- removed trash daily (spring, summer)
- winterized and made repairs in areas not covered by contract
- set-up for fishing derby

#### **Pool #2**

- painted and repaired buildings (as needed)
- cut and maintained lawn areas and pool decks
- planted and maintained planter bed
- removed weeds and growth from fence lines
- maintained play area and playground equipment
- cut and maintained lawn area around City-owned house (1408 South 18<sup>th</sup> Street)
- trimmed and removed trees around pool area
- removed trash on a daily basis during summer months
- placed woodcarpet under playground equipment
- removed playground equipment due to vandalism

#### **Paxtang Park and Spring House**

- cut and maintained lawn areas
- repaired spring house as needed or requested
- regular clean up and trash removal

#### **Paxtang Parkway (Greenbelt)**

- removed dead or fallen trees
- cleaned logs, brush, and debris from creek
- cut back trees and growth along roadway
- cut and maintained lawn areas
- regular cleaning and trash removal
- assisted Greenbelt Association with clean-up as needed or requested
- assisted Eagle Scout with mile marker project to be installed in 2003

#### **Cameron Parkway (Greenbelt)**

- removed dead and fallen trees
- cleaned logs, brush, and debris from creek
- cut back trees and growth along roadway
- painted gates
- cut and maintained lawn areas
- regular clean up and trash removal
- assisted Greenbelt Association with clean up as needed or requested
- assisted Eagle Scout with mile marker project completed in 2002

### **Five Senses Garden Area (Greenbelt)**

- removed dead or fallen trees
- cleaned logs, brush, and debris from creek
- cut back trees and growth along roadway
- planted trees
- regular clean up and trash removal
- assisted Greenbelt Association with clean up as needed or requested
- placed woodchips for walk paths

### **Dock Street Dam Area to Cameron Street Area (Greenbelt)**

- general clean up
- assisted with planting of trees
- hauled woodchips to various locations
- assisted with trash and brush removal
- spread stone for walk path
- cut back brush along pathways

### **13<sup>th</sup> Street Plot Area (Greenbelt)**

- cut and maintained lawn area
- removed trash and debris from side of embankment from illegal dumping

### **Open Lots**

#### **25<sup>th</sup> Street Plot**

- cut and maintained lawn area
- removed snow from sidewalk and salted
- general clean up of area

#### **Hoffman and Graham Streets Plots**

- cut and maintained lawn areas
- general clean-up of area



### **Quigley's Plot**

- cut and maintained lawn areas
- cut back brush on embankment
- removed trash from embankment
- removed snow from walk and steps
- salted walk and steps

### **Miscellaneous**

- January through April, the majority of our time and efforts were involved with snow removal, storm damage clean up (trees), Riverfront clean up (flood related)
- ground cover, or woodcarpet was checked and replaced under all play apparatus (500 cy.)  
5 tractor trailer loads
- removed and trimmed trees on various City-owned properties
- removed trash and weeds from various City-owned properties
- removed trash from all parks and play areas (265.99 tons)
- placed sponsor and special event banners
- assisted Special Events Director with all City functions and special events
- set up, tear down, and clean up for all special events City-wide
- assisted Recreation Department with events and programs as needed or requested
- assisted City Island Superintendent as needed or requested
- set up ballfields for sporting events (football, soccer, softball, hardball, lacrosse, etc.)
- set up, tear down, and clean up for concerts (Reservoir Park, Italian Lake, Barge)
- replaced some existing 6' benches with 12' benches
- assisted Shipoke Neighborhood Association with replanting trees and shrubs on Race Street plot
- cast new concrete bench ends
- repaired and painted City work boats
- repaired snow plows
- assisted Public Works (snow plowing, salting, etc.)
- assisted other City departments as needed or requested (Highway, Water, Sewage, Police, fire, etc.)
- assisted any City agency as needed or requested
- made minor and major equipment and facility repairs (in-house) to all facilities
- repaired and painted equipment (as needed)
- cut and placed Christmas trees (City Hall, 21<sup>st</sup> & Market)
- placed herbicide and mulch at all city owned traffic islands, formal gardens and planted beds (13 tractor trailer loads were spread which is equal to 303 tons or 845 cubic yards of mulch was spread in 2002)

**Miscellaneous (continued)**

- decorated Christmas tree (City Hall)
- placed and removed Hospice Christmas tree (Front and Walnut)
- painted various offices in City Hall
- installed concrete pads for vending machines at various sites
- chipped Christmas trees that were collected from City residents (18,800 trees) 44 man hours to complete this task
- placed and removed Christmas tree in front of the Hilton
- assisted the Harrisburg School District with upkeep and maintenance advice and direction

### **Shade Tree Report**

339 Calls for requests for service

309 Requests for service were completed as of December 2002

107 Permits were issued to remove, plant, or trim trees.

100 Notices were sent for removal of dead, dangerous, or nuisance trees

\* 197 calls for service were completed due to heavy snows on Christmas day 2002.

\*\* approximately 100 calls for service were completed due to various other storms throughout the year.

Trees on or along City parks and play areas were also maintained by this Department, with 314 trees being trimmed in Riverfront Park alone, (from the north City line to Forster Street).

Trees and shrubs on any City property were trimmed, planted, or removed upon request.

Trees were planted for Arbor Day (6), Earth Day, special dedications, and Greenbelt projects.

Note: The numbers for requests for service and completed requests does not determine the actual number of trees trimmed, removed, or planted. Some properties have several trees on site. There were areas where numerous complaints were called in, entire City blocks were trimmed and/or maintained.

### Examples of Multiple Trees and Complete Blocks Trimmed in 2002

2600 & 2700 block Jefferson Street	(23 trees)
100 & 200 block State Street	(24 trees)
3100 block Pennwood Road	(5 trees)
Hoerner Street (100 block)	(15 trees)
2100 block Moore Street	(2 trees)
Forrest Street (500 block)	(12 trees)
200 block N. 14 <sup>th</sup> Street	(16 trees)
200 block N. 15 <sup>th</sup> Street	(17 trees)
2000 block Bellevue	(17 trees)
1700 block State Street (north side)	(9 trees)
3 <sup>rd</sup> Street (Strawberry Alley to Market)	(5 trees)
Market Street (3rd-4th)	(9 trees)
2600 block Reel Street	(7 trees)
1900 block Chestnut Street	(20 trees)
2700 block Lexington Street	(1 tree)
13 <sup>th</sup> to City Line on Sycamore Street	(128 trees)
18 <sup>th</sup> Street (State to Herr Streets)	(20 trees)
2600 & 2700 N. 4 <sup>th</sup> Street	(14 trees)
500 & 600 block Radnor Street	(17 trees)
2500 block of Jefferson (East Side at Playground)	(11 trees)
600 block Angenese Street	(8 trees)
1000 block S. 19 <sup>th</sup> Street	(7 trees)
900 & 1000 block S. 17 <sup>th</sup> Street	(17 trees)
1600 & 1700 block Randolph Street	(14 trees)
Riverfront Park	<u>(314 trees)</u>

**Total Trimmed:**

**732 trees trimmed**

## **CITY ISLAND SUPERINTENDENT REPORT**

## **City Island Superintendent Report**

### **Park Permit Summary**

Total Permits	=	261
Total Revenue from permits	=	\$57,696
Total Estimated Attendance from permitted events	=	90,626

(Total figures do not include attendance and revenue for the Artsfest, American Musicfest and the Kipona celebrations)

### **Employees**

1. City Island Superintendent/Assistant Director - Jay Browning
  2. Skyline Groundskeeper - Kenneth Cook
  3. P/T Summer Employees - David Hassell, Nathan Yingst, Jessica Hassell, Brian Washington, Martez Henderson, Alan Logan, and Warren Brown
- NOTE\* David Hassell has since been hired as a full-time laborer

### **New Construction**

- South Parking Lot Garage completed and opened for business
- SouthPointe Marina completed and opened for business
- (2) Murals were painted on City Island one on the outer wall of Skyline and one on the bridge abutment of the Walnut Street Bridge.

### **Highlights**

- Armed Forces Day Weekend (est. 20,000 attendance) - Various branches of the Military showcased equipment and gave live demonstrations.
- New Vendor - Climbnasium - 24' high portable rock climbing wall stationed in Carousel Field. When Carousel Field is otherwise booked the John Harris Trading Post serves as Climbnasium's alternate location.
- New proprietor (Mel Cross) Island Breezes

## Facility Maintenance

### Beach House and Beach

- Hosed down Beach with the assistance from our Fire Department
- Rehabilitated Beach House with assistance from the National Guard. This included painting the entire exterior, repairing or replacement of shutters, repair or replacement of doors, and restoration of cement ramps.
- All red and white signs were replaced by white signs with blue print along with blue and yellow trim to compliment the Beach House.
- Cleaned restrooms and lifeguard area
- Mowed and whipped areas weekly
- Winterized building

### Carousel Pavilion

- Swept, degreased and applied concrete sealer/finish to entire floor
- Painted and repaired 50 picnic tables which are used in and around the facility
- Removed trash after each event
- Washed tables after each event
- Mowed and whipped field area biweekly
- Brought all four fire extinguishers up to code

### Flag Poles

- Replaced all flags at beginning of season
- Flew flags at half-mast when appropriate

### Harbourtown

- Removed, painted, repaired and set-up all buildings for season
- Mowed and whipped grass areas biweekly
- Kept wood carpet at appropriate levels

### Historic Trolley

- Wiped off and swept weekly

### **John Harris Trading Post**

- Mowed and whipped grass areas biweekly
- Watered flowers daily during summer months

### **Nature Trail**

- Trimmed shrubbery as needed
- ARC youth group distributed fresh wood carpet through trail as a community service project.

### **Nineteenth Hole**

- Mowed and whipped areas biweekly
- Placed six picnic tables throughout area
- Seeded area as needed
- Placed a small memorial and planted a small tree in memory of deceased cancer victim across from nineteenth hole area.

### **North and South Parking Lots**

- Removed all litter from lots daily
- Highway Department ran street cleaner through parking lots weekly

### **RiverSide Stadium**

- Cleaned concourse and sealed bricks
- Brought all fire extinguishers up to code
- Painted locker and restroom areas
- Made repairs (water fountains, toilets, sinks, applied fresh anti-skid tape on steps throughout facility
- Prepared Stadium for opening day
- Closed flood doors for the winter months.

### **Riverview Pavilion**

- Washed tables and cleaned floor daily
- Removed graffiti and litter when needed
- Mowed and whipped area biweekly
- Brought fire extinguisher up to code
- Removed trash after each event



### **SouthPointe Marina**

- Trimmed trees

### **Skyline Sports Complex**

- **February** - Edged in-field
- **March** - Rolled field and repaired damaged areas
- **April** - Added tupersand with (21-3-4) slow release fertilizer
- **May** - Second application of tupersand, aerified field, seeded and fertilized with (18-0-18)
- **June** - Used Merit (14-0-14) for grub control seeded areas as needed, fixed divots from football games
- **July** - Seed as needed, treated diseased areas, applied (18-0-18) fertilizer
- **August through October** - Seeded as needed, corrected divots, treated field for damage from soccer and football, applied (24-5-11) to add iron to field) which helps make field greener and more attractive.
- **November** - Topdress field with sand and peat moss, aerify in four directions, seed and fertilize with (18-24-12), repaired sideline damage from heavy use during football season
- **Routine maintenance** - Mowed field as needed (sometimes three times per week), freshened wood carpet in workout area of skyline, trimmed embankments, painted sheds as chipping and peeling occurred, painted tables as needed (assisted by a community service worker), cleaned restrooms twice daily, daily litter pickup
- **Types of Events** - Semi-pro football, softball, volleyball leagues, Karate tournaments, movies, picnics and family reunions